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PLANET
COMICS
No. 58
JAN.
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FICTION HOUSE
52 Pages
MAGAZINES
A new adventure starring HUNT BOWMAN in LOST WORLD
also MYSTA of the MOON – STAR PIRATE – and many others

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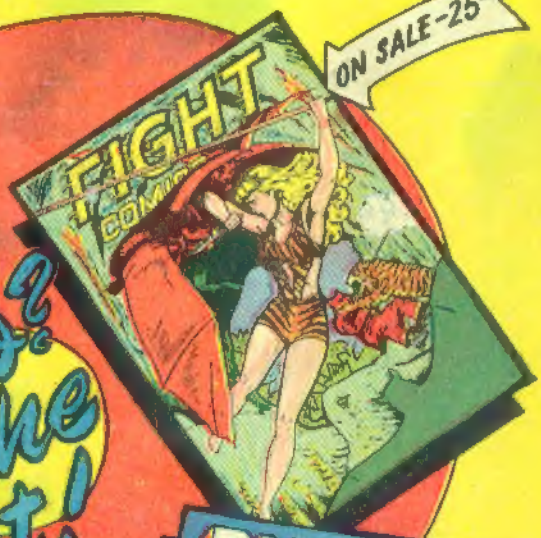

ON SALE-25TH

ON SALE-1ST

ON SALE-5TH

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LOOK FOR THE BULL'S-EYE!

FICTION HOUSE MAGAZINES 52 Pages

A FICTION HOUSE MAGAZINE

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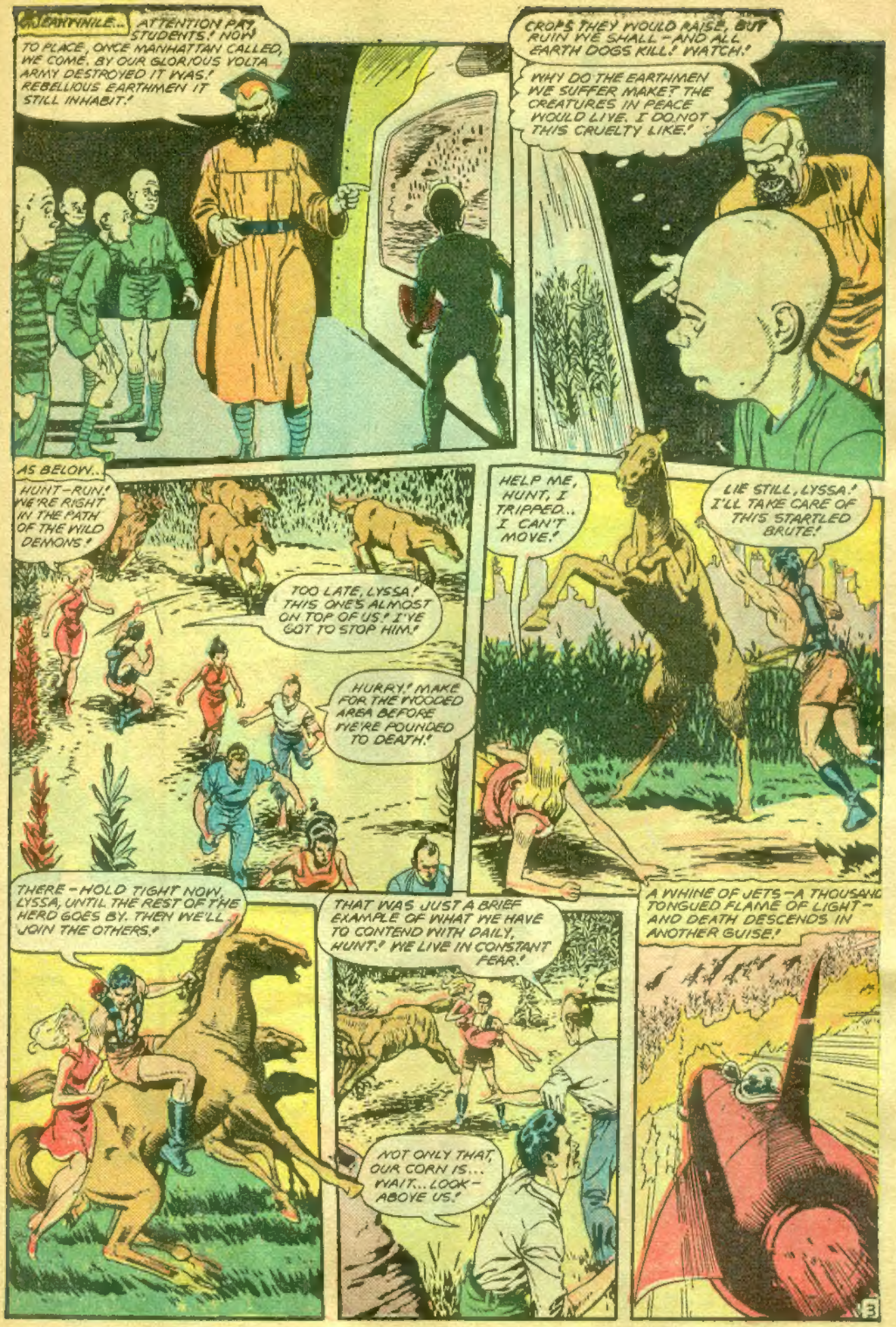
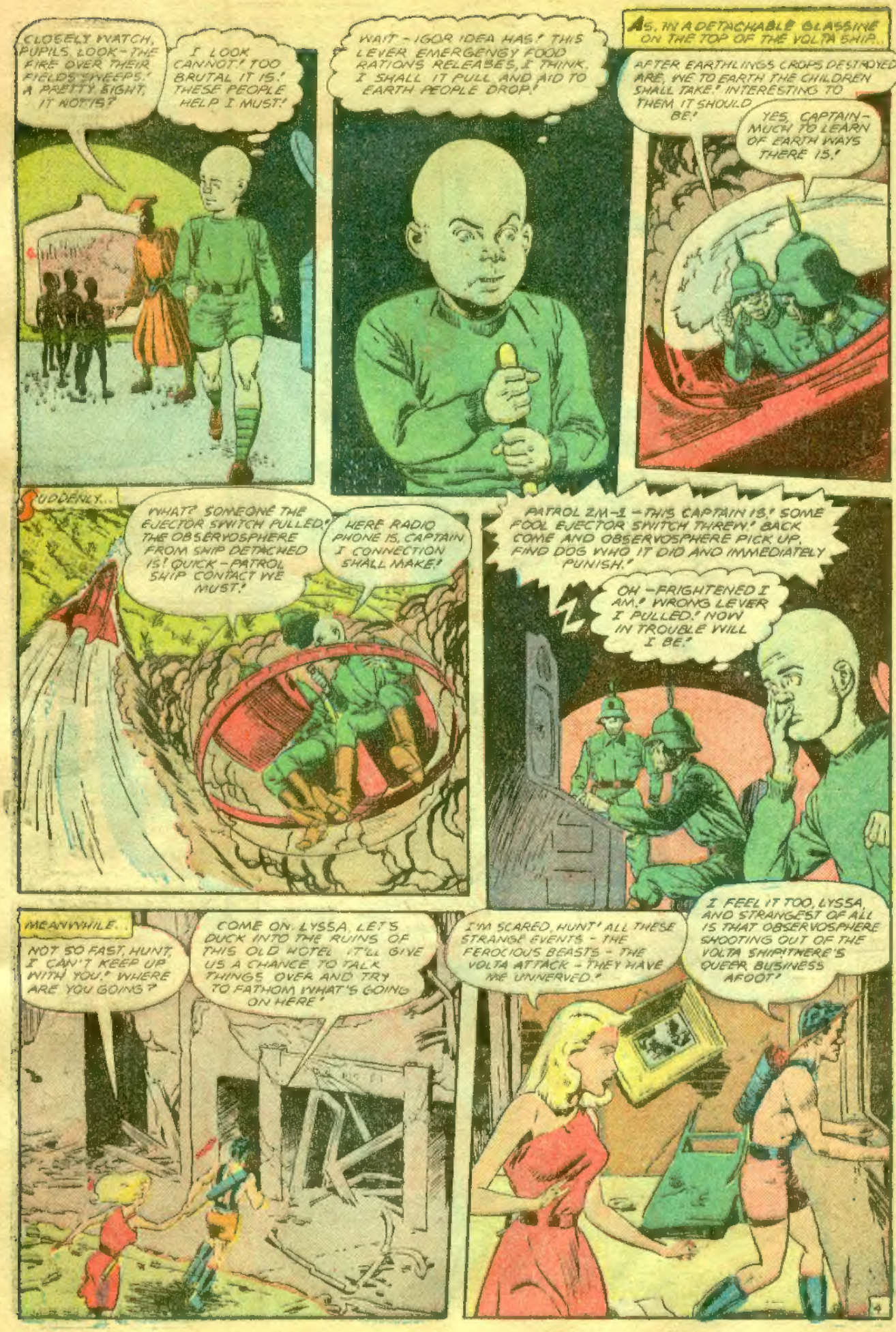
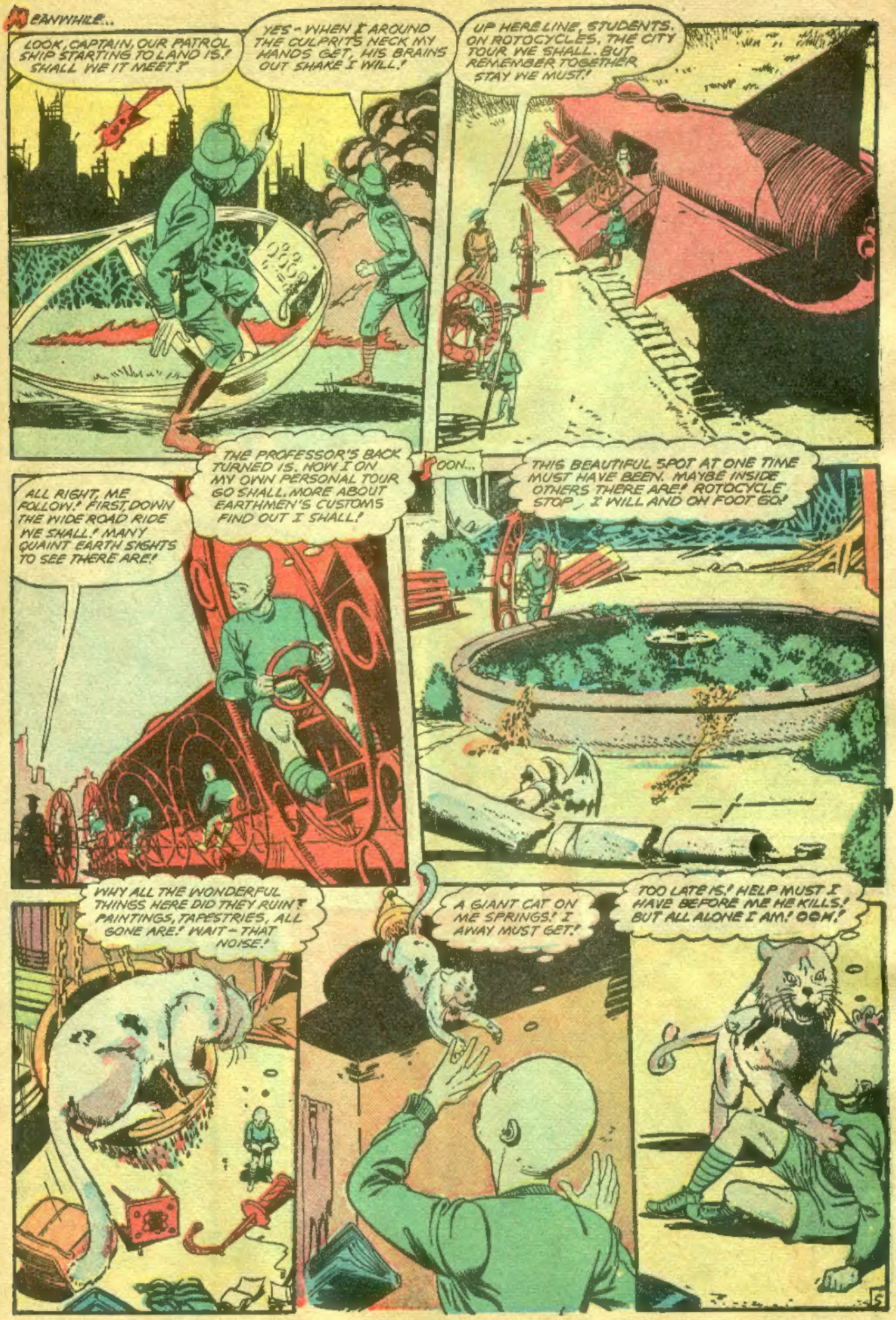
NEXT ISSUE OF PLANET COMICS (No. 59, MAR.) ON SALE AT YOUR NEWSSTAND JAN. 10th.

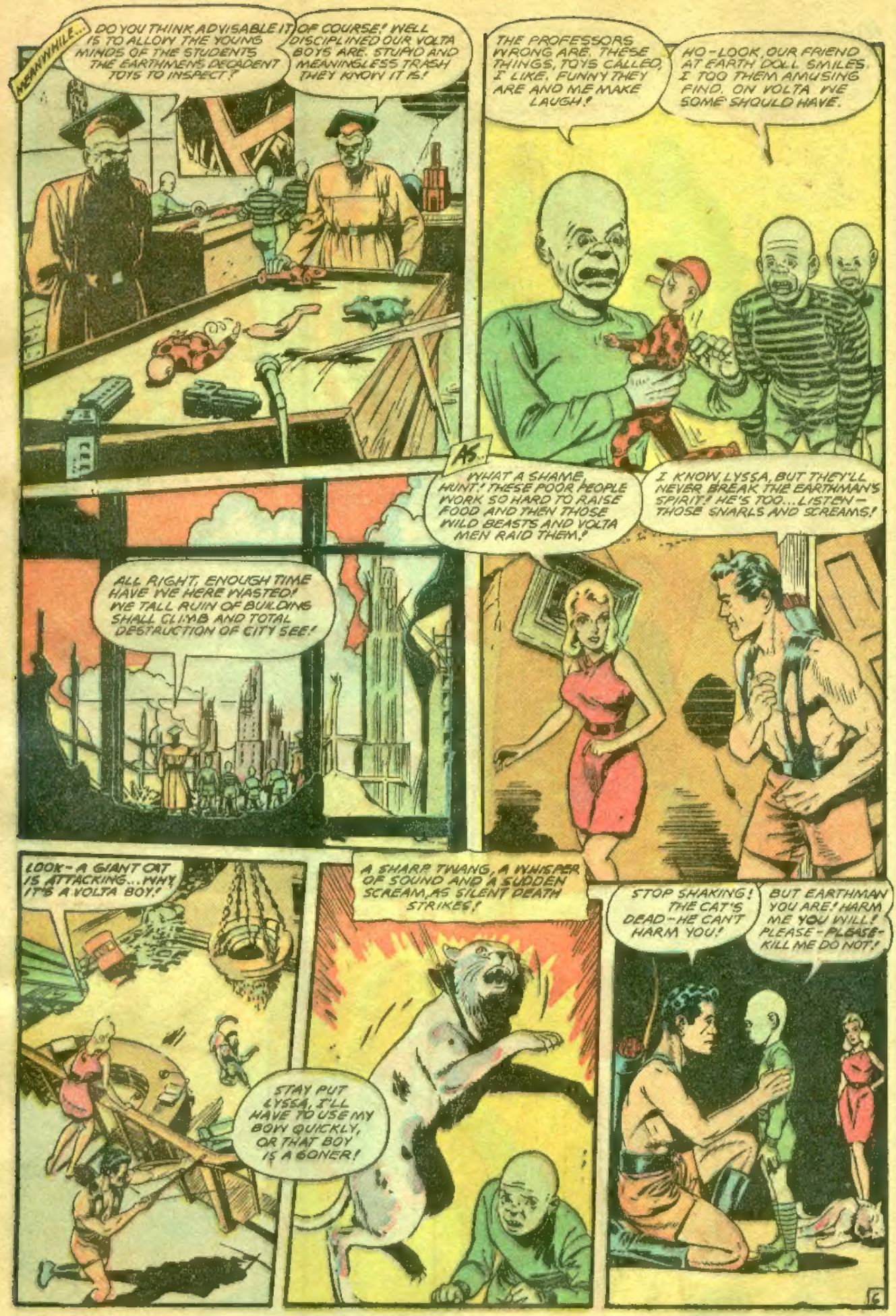
THE Lost WORLD
by THORNECLIFFE HERRICK
FOOD FOR FREEDOM! SO RINGS THE BATTLE-CRY OF THE EARTH PEOPLE! FOOD – TO NOURISH WEAK BODIES AND BUILD THE STRENGTH TO SHATTER THE CHAFING YOKE OF VOLTAN SLAVERY! FOOD-ITS MAGIC TONE LEADING HUNT BOWMAN AND LYSSA TO SHATTERED NEW YORK, AS...
HURRY, HUNT! ARE YOU SURE THIS IS THE SPOT WHERE WE WERE TO MEET THE FARMERS?
THIS IS IT, LYSSA! BEFORE THE VOLTA INVASION, IT WAS CALLED CENTRAL PARK!
OH, HUNT – IT IS LOVELY, EVEN NOW! I CAN SEE WHY THE EARTH PEOPLE DECIDED TO PLANT THEIR CROPS HERE!
SO CAN I! BUT THEIR BABBLING ABOUT WILD HORSES AND RAIDS! I COULDN'T MAKE OUT. WAIT – LYSSA...LOOK!

IT'S A MONSTER-CAT, PROBABLY ONE OF THE BEASTS THE EARTH PEOPLE TOLD US WERE RAIDING THEIR CROPS! BACK, LYSSA, BEFORE IT SEES US!
IT'S HORRIBLE, HUNT! WHAT SHALL WE DO?
THERE'S ONLY ONE THING TO DO - I'LL TRY TO BRING IT DOWN WITH MY BOW!
PLEASE, HUNT, MAKE IT COUNT OR...
LOOK... IT EXPLODED INTO A MILLION PIECES! HUNT - WHAT WAS IT?
I DON'T KNOW, LYSSA! LET'S GET BACK, WE CAN'T TAKE ANY CHANCES! LISTEN... THOSE SHOUTS!
DEATH - DEATH TO THESE DESTROYERS WHO WISH TO RUIN OUR FIELDS!
WAIT - PUT UP YOUR WEAPONS, MEN! IT'S HUNT BOWMAN AND LYSSA!
SORRY TO FRIGHTEN YOU, HUNT, BUT WHAT YOU SHOT WAS OUR SCARECROW! WE'VE BEEN USING THAT CAT-SHAPED BALLOON ON A PULLEY SET-UP TO CHASE THE HERD OF WILD HORSES I MENTIONED TO YOU!
THAT'S A RELIEF! I THOUGHT IT WAS... WHAT - THAT NOISE!
LOOK... THOSE WILD DEVILS ARE TRAMPLING THROUGH OUR CORNFIELDS AGAIN!
NOW, HUNT, YOU'LL BE ABLE TO SEE THESE ANIMALS THAT ARE DRIVING US FRANTIC!
THE THUNDER OF POUNDING HOOVES HERALDS THE ARRIVAL OF A FOUR-LEGGED PLAGUE!
2


EARTHMILE...
ATTENTION PAY, STUDENTS! NOW TO PLACE, ONCE MANHATTAN CALLED, WE COME. BY OUR GLORIOUS VOLTA ARMY DESTROYED IT WAS! REBELLIOUS EARTHMEN IT STILL INHABIT!
CROPS THEY WOULD RAISE, BUT RUIN WE SHALL - AND ALL EARTH DOGS KILL! WATCH!
WHY DO THE EARTHMEN WE SUFFER MAKE? THE CREATURES IN PEACE WOULD LIVE. I DO NOT THIS CRUELTY LIKE!
AS BELOW..
HUNT - RUN! WE'RE RIGHT IN THE PATH OF THE WILD DEMONS!
TOO LATE, LYSSA! THIS ONE'S ALMOST ON TOP OF US! I'VE GOT TO STOP HIM!
HURRY! MAKE FOR THE WOODED AREA BEFORE WE'RE POUNDED TO DEATH!
HELP ME, HUNT, I TRIPPED.. I CAN'T MOVE!
LIE STILL, LYSSA! I'LL TAKE CARE OF THIS STARTLED BRUTE!
THERE - HOLD TIGHT NOW, LYSSA, UNTIL THE REST OF THE HERD GOES BY. THEN WE'LL JOIN THE OTHERS!
THAT WAS JUST A BRIEF EXAMPLE OF WHAT WE HAVE TO CONTEND WITH DAILY, HUNT! WE LIVE IN CONSTANT FEAR!
NOT ONLY THAT, OUR CORN IS... WAIT... LOOK - ABOVE US!
A WHINE OF JETS - A THOUSAND TONGUED FLAME OF LIGHT - AND DEATH DESCENDS IN ANOTHER GUISE!
3


CLOSELY WATCH, PUPILS. LOOK - THE FIRE OVER THEIR FIELDS SWEEPS.' A PRETTY SIGHT, IT NOT IS?'
I LOOK CANNOT.' TOO BRUTAL IT IS.' THESE PEOPLE HELP I MUST!'
WAIT - IGOR IDEA HAS.' THIS LEVER EMERGENCY FOOD RATIONS RELEASES, I THINK. I SHALL IT PULL AND AID TO EARTH PEOPLE DROP.'
AS, IN A DETACHABLE GLASSINE ON THE TOP OF THE VOLTA SHIP..
AFTER EARTHLINGS CROPS DESTROYED ARE, WE TO EARTH THE CHILDREN SHALL TAKE.' INTERESTING TO THEM IT SHOULD BE!'
YES, CAPTAIN - MUCH TO LEARN OF EARTH WAYS THERE IS.'
SUDDENLY...
WHAT? SOMEONE THE EJECTOR SWITCH PULLED.' THE OBSERVOSPHERE FROM SHIP DETACHED IS! QUICK - PATROL SHIP CONTACT WE MUST.'
HERE RADIO PHONE IS, CAPTAIN I CONNECTION SHALL MAKE!
PATROL ZM-1 - THIS CAPTAIN IS.' SOME FOOL EJECTOR SWITCH THREW.' BACK COME AND OBSERVOSPHERE PICK UP. FIND DOG WHO IT DID AND IMMEDIATELY PUNISH.'
OH - FRIGHTENED I AM.' WRONG LEVER I PULLED.' NOW IN TROUBLE WILL I BE.'
MEANWHILE..
NOT SO FAST, HUNT. I CAN'T KEEP UP WITH YOU.' WHERE ARE YOU GOING?
COME ON, LYSSA. LET'S DUCK INTO THE RUINS OF THIS OLD MOTEL. IT'LL GIVE US A CHANCE TO TALK THINGS OVER AND TRY TO FATHOM WHAT'S GOING ON HERE'
I'M SCARED, HUNT.' ALL THESE STRANGE EVENTS - THE FEROCIOUS BEASTS - THE VOLTA ATTACK - THEY HAVE ME UNNERVED.'
I FEEL IT TOO, LYSSA AND STRANGEST OF ALL IS THAT OBSERVOSPHERE SHOOTING OUT OF THE VOLTA SHIP. THERE'S QUEER BUSINESS AFOOT'
4


MEANWHILE...
LOOK, CAPTAIN, OUR PATROL SHIP STARTING TO LAND IS! SHALL WE IT MEET?
YES - WHEN I AROUND THE CULPRIT'S NECK MY HANDS GET, HIS BRAINS OUT SHAKE I WILL!
UP HERE LINE, STUDENTS, ON ROTOCYCLES, THE CITY TOUR WE SHALL. BUT REMEMBER TOGETHER STAY WE MUST!
ALL RIGHT, ME FOLLOW! FIRST, DOWN THE WIDE ROAD RIDE WE SHALL! MANY QUAINT EARTH SIGHTS TO SEE THERE ARE!
THE PROFESSOR'S BACK TURNED IS. NOW I ON MY OWN PERSONAL TOUR GO SHALL. MORE ABOUT EARTHMEN'S CUSTOMS FIND OUT I SHALL!
SOON...
THIS BEAUTIFUL SPOT AT ONE TIME MUST HAVE BEEN. MAYBE INSIDE OTHERS THERE ARE! ROTOCYCLE, STOP. I WILL AND ON FOOT GO!
WHY ALL THE WONDERFUL THINGS HERE DID THEY RUIN? PAINTINGS, TAPESTRIES, ALL GONE ARE! WAIT - THAT NOISE!
A GIANT CAT ON ME SPRINGS! I AWAY MUST GET!
TOO LATE IS! HELP MUST I HAVE BEFORE ME HE KILLS! BUT ALL ALONE I AM! OOH!
5


MEANWHILE...
DO YOU THINK ADVISABLE IT IS TO ALLOW THE YOUNG MINDS OF THE STUDENTS THE EARTHMENS DECADENT TOYS TO INSPECT?
OF COURSE! WELL DISCIPLINED OUR VOLTA BOYS ARE. STUPID AND MEANINGLESS TRASH THEY KNOW IT IS!
THE PROFESSORS WRONG ARE. THESE THINGS, TOYS CALLED, I LIKE. FUNNY THEY ARE AND ME MAKE LAUGH!
HO-LOOK, OUR FRIEND AT EARTH DOLL SMILES. I TOO THEM AMUSING FIND. ON VOLTA WE SOME SHOULD HAVE.
AS...
WHAT A SHAME HUNT! THESE POOR PEOPLE WORK SO HARD TO RAISE FOOD AND THEN THOSE WILD BEASTS AND VOLTA MEN RAID THEM!
I KNOW LYSSA, BUT THEY'LL NEVER BREAK THE EARTHMAN'S SPIRIT! HE'S TOO... LISTEN— THOSE SNARLS AND SCREAMS!
ALL RIGHT, ENOUGH TIME HAVE WE HERE WASTED! WE TALL RUIN OF BUILDING SHALL CLIMB AND TOTAL DESTRUCTION OF CITY SEE!
LOOK-A GIANT CAT IS ATTACKING... WHY, IT'S A VOLTA BOY!
A SHARP TWANG, A WHISPER OF SOUND AND A SUDDEN SCREAM, AS SILENT DEATH STRIKES!
STAY PUT LYSSA, I'LL HAVE TO USE MY BOW QUICKLY, OR THAT BOY IS A GONER!
STOP SHAKING! THE CAT'S DEAD-HE CAN'T HARM YOU!
BUT EARTHMAN YOU ARE! HARM ME YOU WILL! PLEASE-PLEASE-KILL ME DO NOT!
6

I SHOULD ACTUALLY KILL YOU NOW! IN A FEW YEARS, YOU'LL BE A GROWN VOLTA SOLDIER, RAVAGING THE EARTH PEOPLE. BUT SOMEHOW, I CAN'T DO IT!
I KNEW YOU WOULDN'T, HUNT. LET THE CHILD RETURN TO HIS OWN PEOPLE!
YOU'RE RIGHT, LYSSA! GO, BOY, FOLLOW THAT WIDE ROAD TO THE END AND YOU'LL FIND YOUR SPACER THERE.
YOU WON'T REGRET IT! IT'S THE ONLY HUMANE THING TO DO! COME, HUNT, LET'S START TO FIND THE OTHERS.
HOW KIND TO ME THOSE EARTH DWELLERS WERE! IF VOLTA MEN AN EARTH BOY HAD CAUGHT, THEY HIM WOULD HAVE SLAIN! NOW I MY COMRADES MUST REJOIN OR PROFESSORS ME WILL MISS!
MEANWHILE...
THE SKYLINE OBSERVE, STUDENTS! MANY EONS AGO EARTHMEN HUGE STONE HOUSES RAISED, BUT BY VOLTA THEY SHATTERED WERE! THEM DO YOU SEE?
OH YES, PROFESSOR, FROM UP HERE, WE A GREAT DISTANCE CAN SEE! LOOK... DOWN BELOW— EARTHPEOPLE!
YES, YES, THERE SEVERAL ARE. WE DOWN MUST GO AND THEM CAPTURE!
SPLENDID IDEA! THE STUDENTS THE INFERIOR PEOPLE CAN SEE AND WHY THEIR CIVILIZATION LAST DID NOT! HURRY!
AS BELOW...
AS FAR AS I CAN SEE, HUNT, WE CAN'T DO ANYTHING UNTIL THAT VOLTA SHIP LEAVES! THEN MAYBE WE'LL BE ABLE TO FIND SOME WAY TO...
WHAT!... LOOK— COMING AT US!
STUPID EARTHLINGS! PARA-RAYS YOU WILL HOLD! NOW ESCAPE YOU CANNOT!
BACK HERE STAY, STUDENTS, UNTIL CAPTAIN AND HIS MEN EARTH PEOPLE HAVE SEIZED!

COME, EARTH GIRL. WE YOU TO SPACER SHALL TAKE. YOU FINE SPECIMEN FOR STUDENTS TO SEE ARE!
LET ME GO, YOU BEAST! HUNT-HUNT! DO SOMETHING! DON'T LET THEM TAKE ME!
TAKE YOUR FILTHY PAWS OFF HER, YOU VOLTAN SWINE! HERE'S SOMETHING YOU WON'T TAKE SO EASILY!
THIS STRONG EARTH MAN SEIZE! HE OUR CAPTAIN STRIKES!
CAPTAIN - ALL EARTHLINGS SUBDUED ARE? SHALL WE THEM KILL?
NO, YOU FOOLS! TO SPACER THEM TAKE. THE PROFESSOR ALIVE THEM WANTS!
LOOK - OUR SOLDIERS EARTHMEN BRINGING ARE. NOW WE CLOSE LOOK SHALL HAVE!
I ALL EXCITED AM! THIS FIRST TIME IS THAT ONE I HAVE SEEN!
IGOR - IGOR! HAPPY YOU SHOULD BE! NOW WE REAL EARTHPEOPLE CAN STUDY!
SO? I AT OTHER THINGS RATHER WOULD LOOK!
THERE EARTH CREATURES WHO ME SAVED ARE. I THEM MUST HELP, BUT IF CAUGHT I AM, IT DEATH MEANS
SO - ALL HERE ARE! THEM TO PRISON OF FORCE RAYS TAKE. AFTER THEY THEIR PURPOSE HAVE SERVED, THEY EXTERMINATED SHALL BE OUT OF MY SIGHT THEM TAKE!

CLOSER COME, STUDENTS! THEY CAN'T GET OUT! SOME CRAZY AND VERY SAD HUMANOID FACES OBSERVE! STRANGE HAIR COVERING NOSE!
LISTEN TO HIM RAVE! YOU'D THINK WE WERE ANIMALS AT A ZOO!
THAT'S ALL WE ARE TO THEM, HUNT-CAGED FREAKS. LET'S MAKE A BREAK FOR IT. THEY'LL KILL US ANYWAY WHEN THEY LEAVE HERE!
ARE YOU MAD, MAN? THOSE RAYS WOULD COOK US ALIVE! RELAX, I'LL TRY TO FIGURE A WAY OUT!
MY MIND MADE UP IS! I THESE EARTHMEN WILL FREE! BUT I CAREFUL MUST BE!
EVERYBODY BUT GUARD LEAVING IS! NOW I MY CHANCE HAVE. FIRST I IN SOLDIER'S QUARTERS WILL SNEAK, THEN
I QUIET MUST BE. THE SOLDIERS DISTRACTED ARE! AH - THE PARA-RAY GUN OF THE CAPTAIN HERE LIES.
COME, COME, BRAVE ONES, THE GAME INTERESTING MAKE!
OH - IF I CAUGHT AM, IT HORRIBLE PUNISHMENT WILL BRING THERE - NOW I MY ROTOCYCLE MUST GET!
GUARD - GUARD, OUT OF THE WAY GET! SOMETHING WITH ROTOCYCLE WRONG IS! IT STOP I CAN NOT! LOOK OUT!
WHAT? YOU LITTLE FOOL, CONTROL SWITCH YOU WILL CRASH!
THE GUARD DOWN FALLS AND THE CONTROL BOX SMASHED IS! GOOD!
OOH! NOW THE RAYS OF THE PRISON CUT OFF SHALL BE!

COME ON OUT, EARTHMEN, WE HAVEN'T A MOMENT TO LOSE! THAT VOLTA KID'S VEHICLE SHORT-CIRCUITED THE RAY BARS!
LOOK, HUNT, THE PARA-RAY GUN BY THE GUARD - WE'LL NEED IT! THERE'S ONLY ONE EXIT - PAST THE GUARDS!
WE'LL HAVE TO TAKE IT, LYSSA! THE GUARD'S AREN'T EXPECTING AN ATTACK AND WE HAVE THE ADVANTAGE OF SURPRISE!
WHAT? EARTH SWINE FREE ARE! QUICKLY YOUR WEAPONS! WE THEM MUST STOP!
NOTHING IS GOING TO STOP US - NOTHING! FOLLOW ME, EVERYONE! I'LL BLAST A PATH OF FREEDOM THROUGH THESE VOLTA PIGS!
KILL, EARTHPEOPLE, KILL...AARGH!
HURRY - PUT THEM OUT OF THEIR MISERY BEFORE THEY CAN USE THEIR PARA-RAY GUNS! THEN - HEAD FOR THE DOOR!
RIGHT, HUNT. WE'VE SETTLED WITH THE VOLTANS! NOW - LET'S GO!
I GLAD AM THAT I EARTH PEOPLE AIDED! IF THE CAPTAIN NO ACCIDENT IT WAS INSTEAD OF IN THIS CAGE ON BREAD AND WATER WILL BE! MAYBE SOME DAY WE EARTH INSTEAD OF WILL BE! MAYBE
YES, HUNT, AND THAT ACCIDENT HE HAD WITH THE GUARD - IT WAS VERY SUSPICIOUS! BUT I GUESS WE'LL NEVER KNOW THE TRUTH!
YOU KNOW, LYSSA, YOU THAT ALL THE TIME I'VE BEEN THINKING ABOUT THAT VOLTA KID? HE LOOKED FAMILIAR - LIKE SOMEONE I'VE SAVED FROM THE CAT!
FAILED WE HAVE! THE EARTHLINGS ESCAPING ARE!
LOOK, YES, LYSSA I'M RIGHT BEHIND YOU! NOW WE MUST GET AWAY! THERE'S A SPACE BETWEEN US AND THIS SPACER!
LOST WORLD IN EVERY ISSUE OF PLANET COMICS!

FUTURA
BY JOHN DOUGLAS
THE MARKET OF FORBIDDEN TREASURES IS LINED WITH BOOTHS... AND FROM ONE FUTURA, EARTHGIRL, LURKS IN HEAVY SHADOW DESPERATION HAUNTS HER EYES... THEN HATRED FLASHES FOR OMMA AND YAMA STROLL PAST HER SANCTUARY... OUT AMONG THE EYES OF THE INTERPLANETARY COURT. THEY BRANDED ME.' SHE MURMURS. "WHATEVER THEY DO..WHEREVER THEY GO..I WILL FIND THEM.?... BUT FIRST I MUST ESCAPE!"
AND YOU, SNIVELING BARTERER OF BANNED WEAPONS ..YOU WILL HELP ME...QUICK, WHICH WAY?"
DON'T, DON'T SHOOT! THERE IS A BACK DOOR AN ALLEY WHICH LEADS TO THE SPACE DROME. COME!
GOOD! NO TRICKS NOW BUT WHAT IS THAT METAL MONSTER...?
THAT? WHY THAT IS AN AUTOMATIC MOBILE FORT LATEST MARTIAN CREATION!"
IT IS CAPABLE OF DESTROYING AN ENTIRE CITY HOUSES... PEOPLE EVERYTHING!"
"EXACTLY WHAT I WANT THIS FILTHY PLACE SHOULD BE EXTERMINATED. QUICK! START IT!"

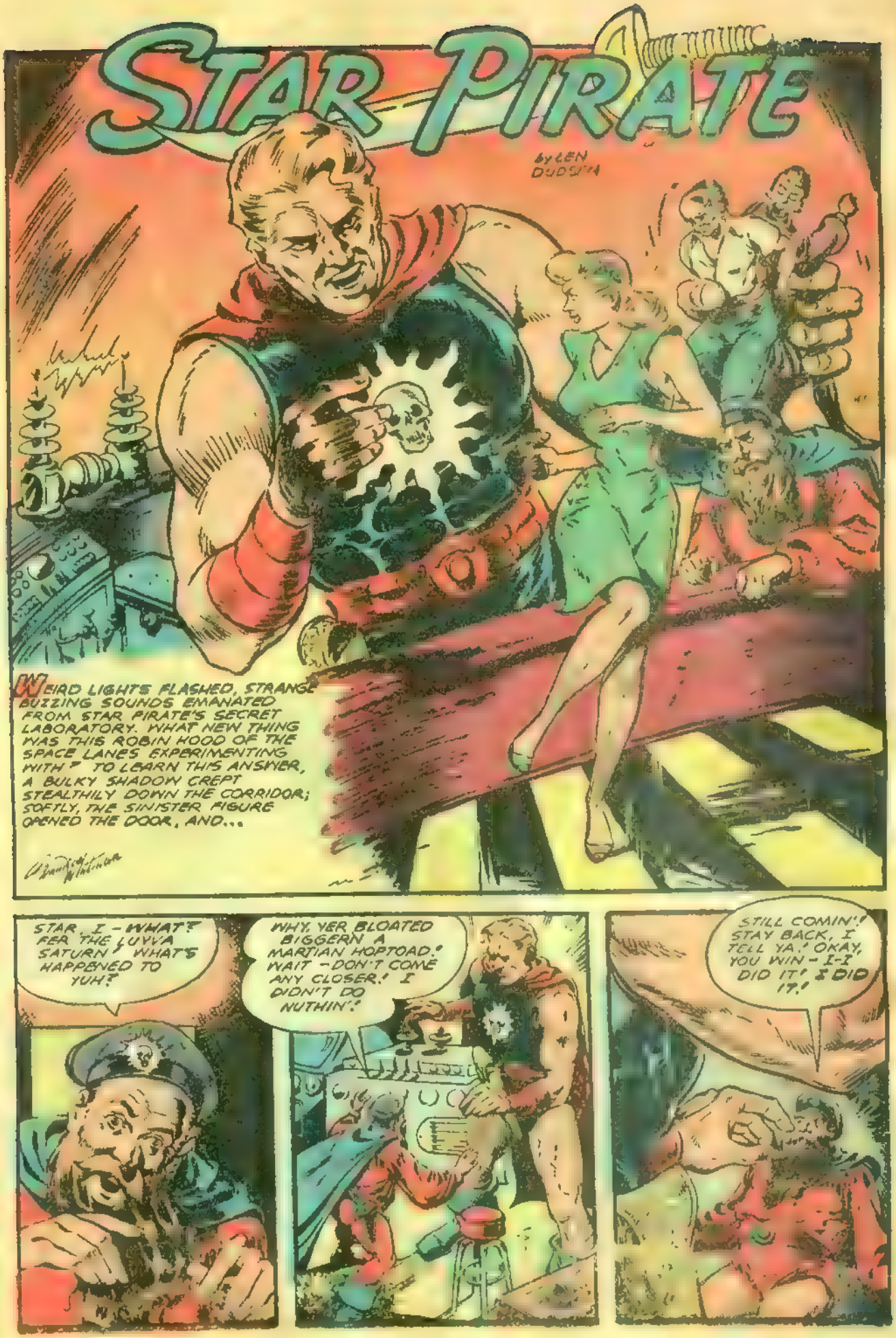
WHILE IN A NEARBY RENDEZVOUS WHERE THE OUTLAWS GATHER TO BOAST OF PAST EXPLOITS AND MAKE PLANS FOR FUTURE VENTURES... YRINA, PIRATE QUEEN, CONSORTS WITH OMMA, SPACE RAIDER OMNIPOTENT NOW THEY TOAST THEIR NEW BORN ALLIANCE...
"YOU TALK RIDDLES, OMMA... WHERE IS THIS PLANETOID, AQUA? IS THERE A MARKET FOR THESE MERE-MIDGETS? AND WHAT DO THEY LOOK LIKE?
A MARKET, IRINA? THE AVERAGE PRICE.. TEN THOUSAND DRACULS!.."
"AND I HAVE A SAMPLE. THIS WAY MY MAN!"
"SATISFIED, IRINA?
YOU WIN! COME WE WILL LEAVE AT ONCE FIRST WE MUST EVADE THE EVER WATCHFUL SPACE PATROL... LISTEN!"
"THE MART AN ANNIHILATOR. IT IT WILL MELT THE BUILDINGS.. BURN ALL LIVING THINGS TO CINDERS!"
"EXCEPT US OMMA! STOP GAPING LIKE A RUSTIC MOONMAN FOLLOW ME!"
AS OUTSIDE, THE RUTHLESS FRANKENSTEIN BELCHES FLAME GEYSERS.. HUMANS SCREAM AND SCRAMBLE.
"BUT IT IS BURN, BULLIES! ROAST, ROBBERS! DIE... DIE! ...DIE!"

..THEN PANIC! AND INVOCATION SHRIEKS TO LONG FORGOTTEN
...ANYTHING AND EVERYTHING PROMISED JUST LET ME LIVE!
BUT STEEL AND FLAME HEED NOT THE PUNY PROMISES.
FROM THE GUARD TOWER.
IT WAS BUILT TO KILL AND DESTROY AND IT DOES NOT FAIL!
"FUTURA! WE ARE OLD ACQUAINTANCES, REMEMBER? COME... I AM TAKING YOU TO THE SPACE PATROL!"
SPEECHLESS, YRINA AND OMMA CRINGE IN HORROR, FOR FUTURA'S EYES REFUSE ALL MERCY PLEAS!
MEANWHILE OMMA AND YRINA RACE UP THE SPACE-DROME RAMP...
TO LEVEL FOUR
"MY SHIP JUST OUTSIDE!... WE WILL ESCAPE! BUT WHO IS THAT?"
3

AS ABOVE THE LAW-DOGS LOITER CAREFULLY GUARDING THE FREEBOOTERS REFUGE. PREPARED TO POUNCE ON ANY PROWLER
THEN THE CAPTAIN CAUTIONS HIS FOLLOWERS, "UNUSUAL ACTIVITY NOTED IN THEIR ILL-FAMED CITY PERHAPS SOME PREPARE TO RUN OUR GAUNTLET."
A SUDDEN CRY FROM THE VIDEO-VIEWER, "LOOK, CAPTAIN, LISTEN!"
AND FUTURA'S BLURRED FACE SHARPENS ON THE SCREEN, "ATTENTION, PATROL MY NAME IS FUTURA! I HAVE CAPTURED OMMA AND YRINA! I WILL BRING THEM TO YOU!"
AND INSIDE FUTURA'S SHIP, THE PRISONERS HEAR, PALE WITH FRIGHT, "NO CHANCE FOR US." YRINA CRINGES..
BUT OMMA SCORNS HER WHIMPERING, "STRETCH OUT, YOU FOOL," HE WHISPERS. "YOUR TOE MIGHT REACH THAT LEVER."
AS IN THE CONTROL CHAMBER THE EARTHGIRL CALLS, "DON'T SHOOT I'LL COME ALONGSIDE STAND BY TO BOARD US!"
"PUSH IT, PUSH IT!" OMMA MURMURS "GOOD! NOW WATCH!"
4

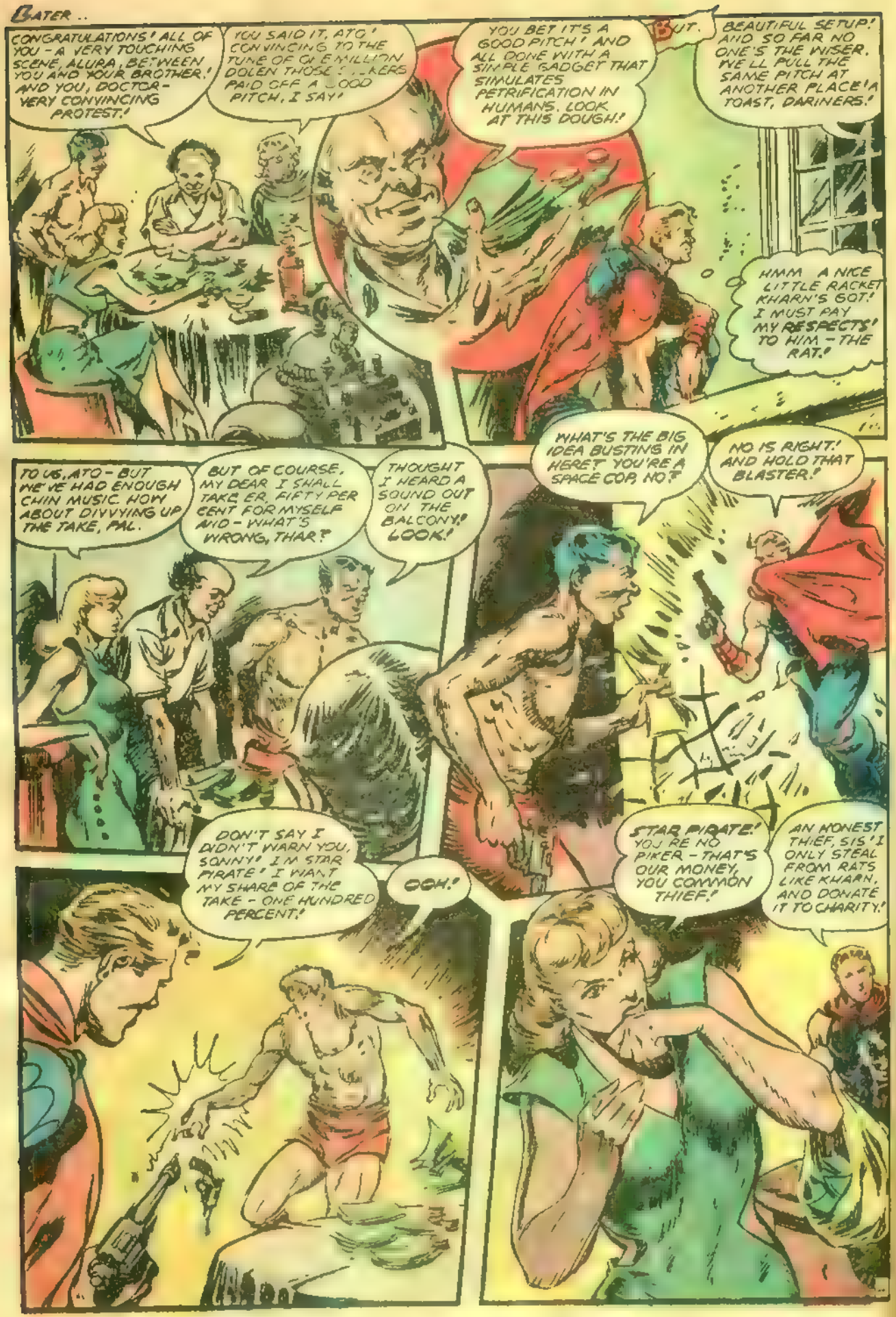
...SHE HAS TRICKED US! HER SHIP GAINS SPEED! ATTACK!... ATTACK!"
AND THROUGH THE
FRANTICALLY SHE PULLS LEVERS PUSHES BUTTONS... BUT STILL IT GYRATES IN EVER WIDENING CIRCLES.
AND EVEN AS HER WORDS ECHO THE CABIN ..FUTURA'S SHIP STRIKES...SLICES.
TRIUMPHANT SHOUT AS CHAINS SNAP FREE...AND EARTHGIRL WE TAKE OVER!"

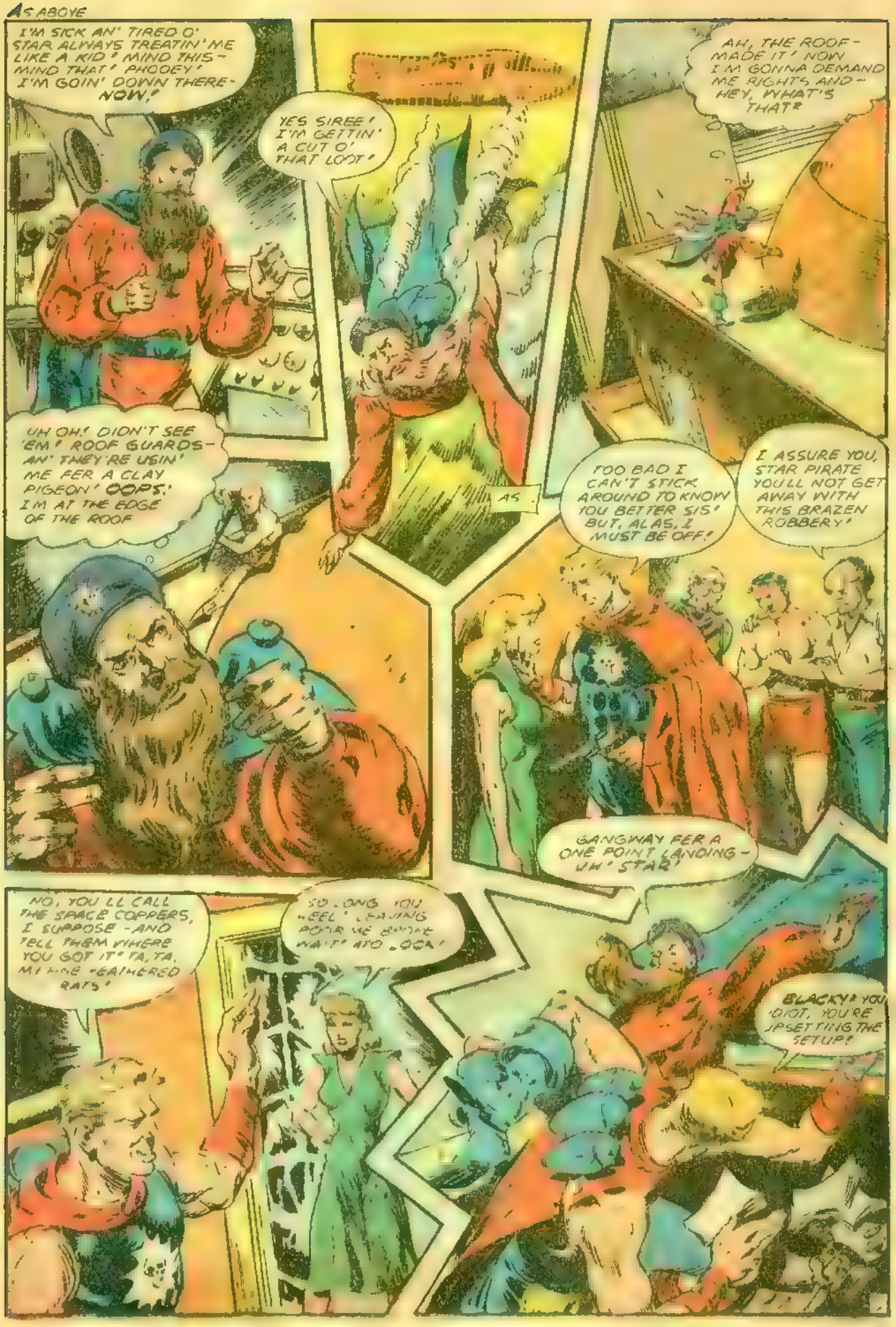
SECONDS LATER .. OMMA AT THE WHEEL WITH A JUBILANT YAINA BESIDE HIM. AND FUTURA .. HER PAIN RACKED BODY IN DEATH-LIKE REPOSE
ON ON . ROARS THE SHIP AND SOON, ALL PURSUERS FADE.
"WE HAVE WON!" SHRIEKS OMMA. "THEY WILL NEVER CATCH US NOW!" AND HIS PARTNER CHORTLES, "I WOULD LIKE TO SEE THE FACES OF THOSE IDIOTS WE FOOLED!"
AND FAR BEHIND, THE CAPTAIN ISSUES ORDERS, "BROADCAST THAT GIRL'S PICTURE DOUBLE, AYE, TRIPLE REWARDS FOR HER ARREST!"
THEN FROM NEPTUNE EARTH, JUPITER VENUS, MARS, SATURN AND ALL INHABITED SPACE-LANDS, THE CRY IS RELAYED. "FUTURA IS WANTED DEAD OR ALIVE!"
AND IN THE FLEEING CRAFT THE CRONIES PLOT. "WE WILL SPEED TO YOUR SECRET AQUA PLANET" YAINA SAYS." AND OMMA NODS AGREEMENT. "WE CAN USE HER THERE" AND THOSE OMINOUS WORDS AWAKEN FUTURA'S BEFUDDLED MIND. SOFTLY, SHE MURMURS 'SO THEY WOULD USE ME. I WILL SEE ABOUT THAT!
FUTURA
IN EVERY ISSUE OF PLANET COMICS!!

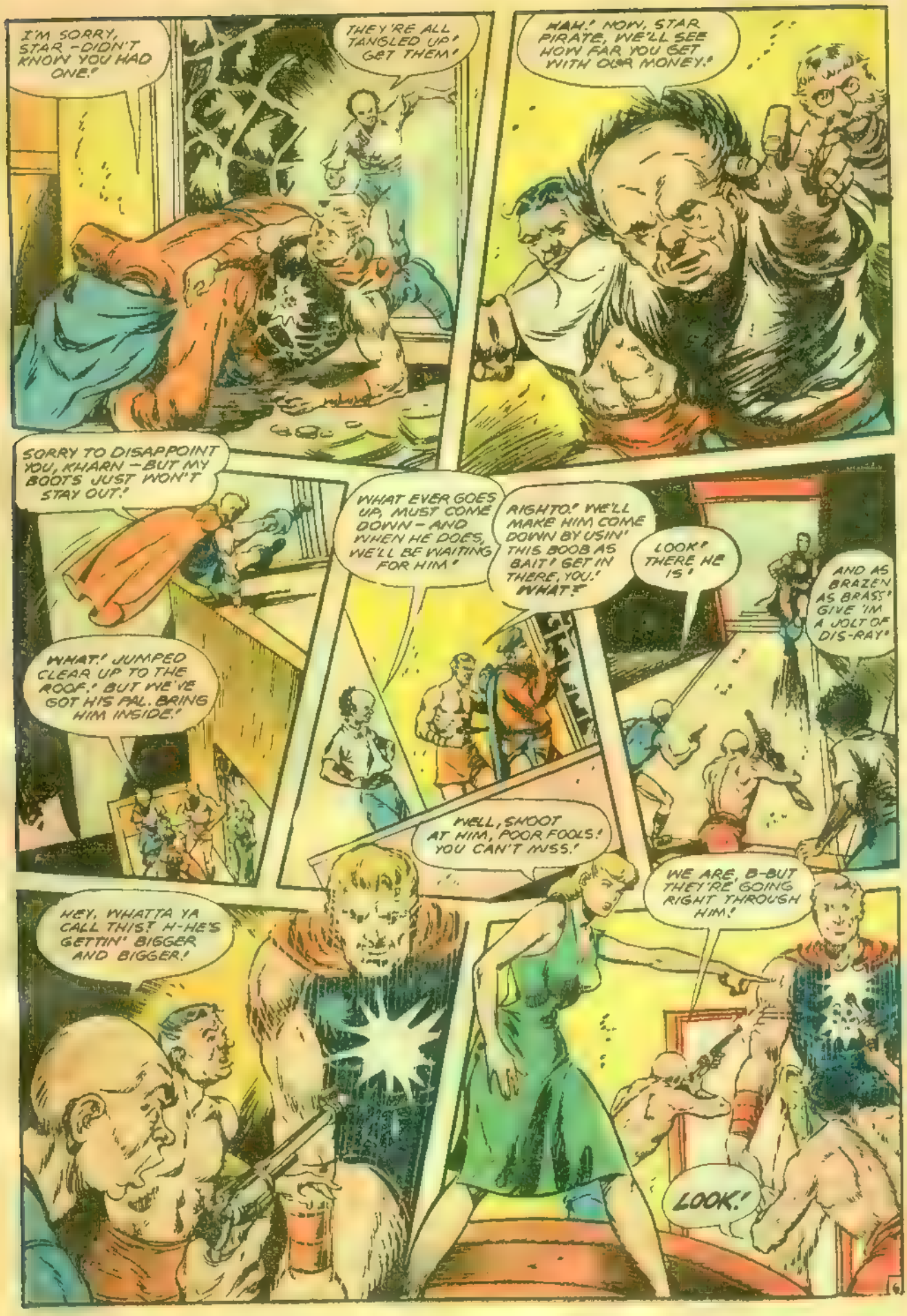

STAR PIRATE
by LEN DUDSIN
WEIRD LIGHTS FLASHED, STRANGE BUZZING SOUNDS EMANATED FROM STAR PIRATE'S SECRET LABORATORY. WHAT NEW THING WAS THIS ROBIN HOOD OF THE SPACE LANES EXPERIMENTING WITH? TO LEARN THIS ANSWER, A BULKY SHADOW CREPT STEALTHILY DOWN THE CORRIDOR; SOFTLY, THE SINISTER FIGURE OPENED THE DOOR, AND...
STAR, I - WHAT? FER THE LUVVA SATURN! WHAT'S HAPPENED TO YUH?
WHY, YER BLOATED BIGGERN A MARTIAN HOPTOAD! WAIT - DON'T COME ANY CLOSER! I DIDN'T DO NUTHIN'!
STILL COMIN'! STAY BACK, I TELL YA! OKAY, YOU WIN - I-I DID IT! I DID IT!

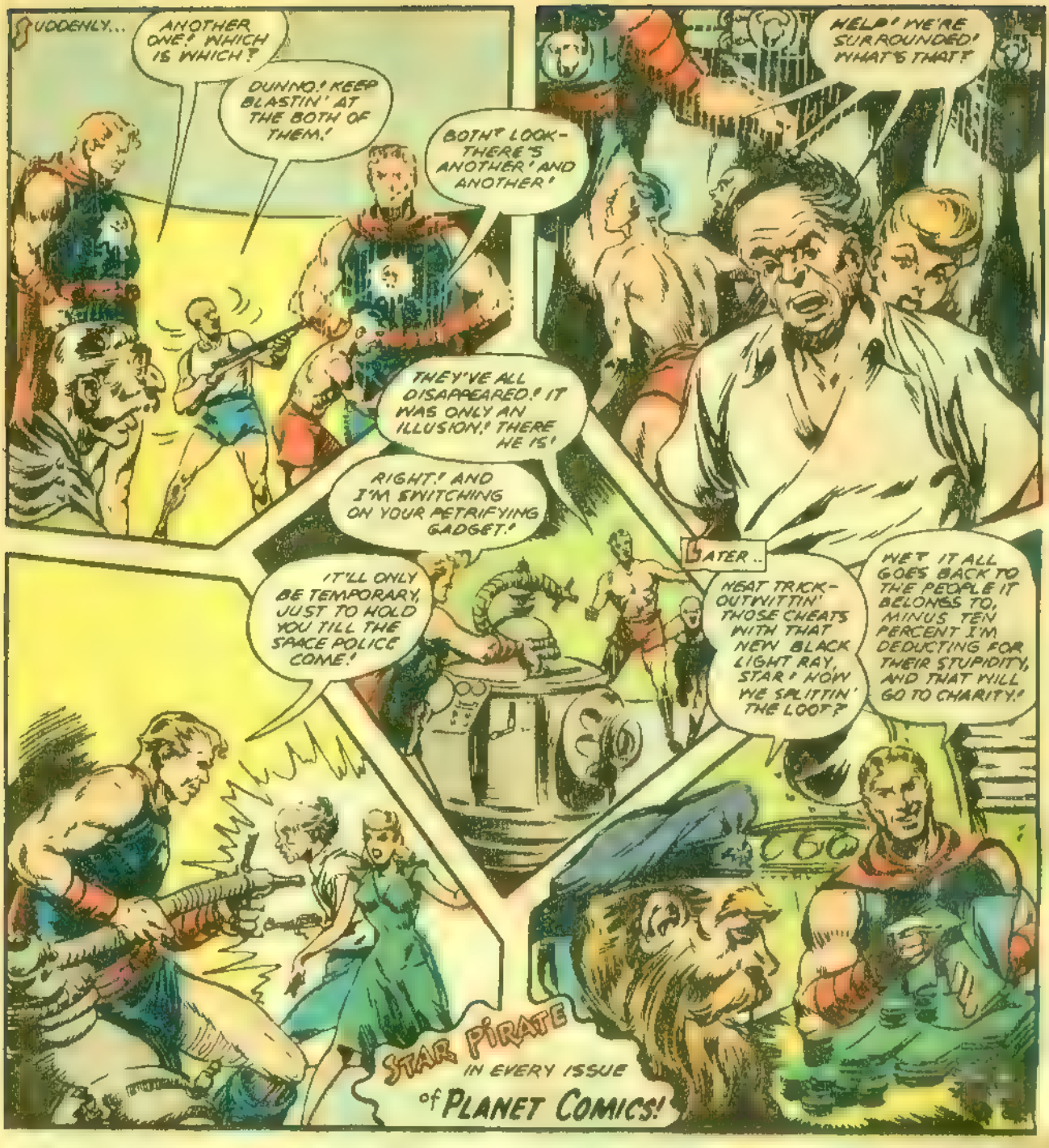
YEAH - I TOOK YER RADITE CUFF LINKS, AN' ONLY A COUPLA HANDFULS OF TH' DOLEN WE GOT ON TH' LAST HAUL! I - I'LL PUT 'EM BACK - I...ER EXCUSE ME!
HELP! I'M BEIN' KILT BY A GHOST! HELP!
TSK, TSK! YOU BEARDED RASCAL! SO YOU'RE THE CULPRIT WHO STOLE MY CUFF LINKS, EH?
L LEAVE ME GO, YA BLOATED OVER-STUFFED STAR! YOU' YER NORMAL SIZED AN, AN BEHIND ME! HOW COME?
A LITTLE GADGET I'VE BEEN WORKING ON BLACKIE. LOOK!
A DYNA-PROJECTO RAY! I DISAPPEAR IN BLACK LIGHT, WHILE MY VISION I PROJECTED IN ANY SIZE I DESIRE BUT I'M NOW READY TO PAY A VISIT A CHARACTER NAMED ATO KHARN!
KHARN? YEAH, I HEARD O' HIM. CONDUCTIN' SOME TESTS ON THOSE VENUSIAN EXPLORERS WHO WERE PETRIFIED, AIN'T HE? LET'S GO!
MEANWHILE - IN AN UNUSED AUDITORIUM IN THE COUNTRY. .
MY POOR, DEAR PEOPLE! EVERY ONE OF YOU ARE RELATIVES OF THAT FATAL CREW, WHO BECAME PETRIFIED ON VENUS. MY EXPERIMENTS IN THIS DISEASE HAVE BEEN SUCCESSFUL! I'LL BEGIN!
BEHOLD! HERE IS A MEMBER OF THAT CREW - IN THE STATE OF PETRIFICATION. I AM GOING TO BRING HIM BACK TO NORMAL LIFE!
PEOPLE, LISTEN TO ME. I AM A DOCTOR, I HAVE TESTED THIS SPECIMEN! ATO KHARN IS A CHARLATAN - A FAKE!
IMPOSSIBLE, ATO KHARN THAT MAN IS PETRIFIED ALL HIS LIVING TISSUES ARE DEAD! AND NOTHING YOU CAN DO - NOTHING CAN BRING HIM BACK!
BUT YOU CAN'T STOP HIM NOW! I INSIST THAT THIS TEST CONTINUE!
3

THAT FIGURE IN THE CASE IS MY BROTHER AND I PAID FIVE HUNDRED DOLEN TO HAVE HIS BODY BROUGHT HERE FOR THIS. I DEMAND YOU GO THROUGH WITH IT OR I'LL CALL THE POLICE!
THERE, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN YOU HAVE IT WITH NO FURTHER OBJECTIONS WELL PROCEED! THE RAY
APPLY THE RAY TO THE CASE!
YES, KHARN! THERE THE FIGURES BATHED IN THE SPECIAL LIGHT
BUNK! PURE BUNK, YOU FOOLS. LISTEN TO ME, SAVE YOUR MONEY - WHAT!
SO, DOCTOR BUNK, OR WHATEVER YOUR NAME IS, WHAT DO YOU SAY NOW? THE TEST IS A SUCCESS! LET HIM OUT!
LET ME OUT - I'M SUFFOCATING, CAN'T BREATHE
LOOK! THAT RAY - IT'S TAKING EFFECT!
THE BODY IS STIRRING! N-HE'S MOVING!
AH, MY FRIENDS BEHOLD THIS TOUCHING REUNION! TO THINK THE ECSTASY OF THAT MAY ALSO BE YOURS! AH ME!
HERE! TAKE MY MONEY!
NO! TAKE MINE!
BRING OUR LOVED ONES BACK!
AS ABOVE
PRETTY SMOOTH CUSTOMER EH BLACKY? SWITCH OFF THE VIDEO. WE'VE SEEN ENOUGH.
WHAT NOW?
I'M GOING DOWN TO SEE THIS BIRD YOU STAY HERE IN CASE I NEED YOU!
AW GEE! WHY DO I HAFTA STAY BEHIND?
3


LATER ..
CONGRATULATIONS! ALL OF YOU - A VERY TOUCHING SCENE, ALURA, BETWEEN YOU AND YOUR BROTHER! AND YOU, DOCTOR - VERY CONVINCING PROTEST!
YOU SAID IT, ATO! CONVINCING TO THE TUNE OF ONE MILLION DOLEN THOSE ... KERS PAID OFF A GOOD PITCH, I SAY!
YOU BET IT'S A GOOD PITCH! AND ALL DONE WITH A SIMPLE GADGET THAT SIMULATES PETRIFICATION IN HUMANS. LOOK AT THIS DOUGH!
BUT.
BEAUTIFUL SETUP! AND SO FAR NO ONE'S THE WISER. WE'LL PULL THE SAME PITCH AT ANOTHER PLACE! A TOAST, DARINERS!
HMM A NICE LITTLE RACKET KHARN'S GOT! I MUST PAY MY RESPECTS! TO HIM - THE RAT!
TO US, ATO - BUT WE'VE HAD ENOUGH CHIN MUSIC. HOW ABOUT DIVVYING UP THE TAKE, PAL.
BUT OF COURSE, MY DEAR I SHALL TAKE, ER, FIFTY PER CENT FOR MYSELF AND - WHAT'S WRONG, THAR?
THOUGHT I HEARD A SOUND OUT ON THE BALCONY! LOOK!
WHAT'S THE BIG IDEA BUSTING IN HERE? YOU'RE A SPACE COP, NO?
NO IS RIGHT! AND HOLD THAT BLASTER!
DON'T SAY I DIDN'T WARN YOU, SONNY! I'M STAR PIRATE! I WANT MY SHARE OF THE TAKE - ONE HUNDRED PERCENT!
OOH!
STAR PIRATE! YOU'RE NO PIKER - THAT'S OUR MONEY, YOU COMMON THIEF!
AN HONEST THIEF, SIS! I ONLY STEAL FROM RATS LIKE KHARN, AND DONATE IT TO CHARITY!


I'M SICK AN' TIRED O' STAR ALWAYS TREATIN' ME LIKE A KID! MIND THIS - MIND THAT! PHOOEY! I'M GOIN' DOWN THERE - NOW!
YES SIREE! I'M GETTIN' A CUT O' THAT LOOT!
AH, THE ROOF - MADE IT! NOW I'M GONNA DEMAND ME RIGHTS AND - HEY, WHAT'S THAT?
UH OH! DIDN'T SEE 'EM! ROOF GUARDS - AN' THEY'RE USIN' ME FER A CLAY PIGEON! OOPS! I'M AT THE EDGE OF THE ROOF
AS
TOO BAD I CAN'T STICK AROUND TO KNOW YOU BETTER SIS! BUT, ALAS, I MUST BE OFF!
I ASSURE YOU, STAR PIRATE YOU'LL NOT GET AWAY WITH THIS BRAZEN ROBBERY!
GANGWAY FER A ONE POINT LANDING - UH! STAR!
NO, YOU'LL CALL THE SPACE COPPERS, I SUPPOSE - AND TELL THEM WHERE YOU GOT IT! TA, TA, MY LINE "GATHERED RATS!"
SO LONG YOU "EEL"! LEAVING POOR ME BEHIND! WAIT! ATO - OCA!
BLACKY! YOU IDIOT, YOU'RE UPSETTING THE SETUP!


I'M SORRY, STAR - DIDN'T KNOW YOU HAD ONE!
THEY'RE ALL TANGLED UP! GET THEM!
HAH! NOW, STAR PIRATE, WE'LL SEE HOW FAR YOU GET WITH OUR MONEY!
SORRY TO DISAPPOINT YOU, KHARN - BUT MY BOOTS JUST WON'T STAY OUT!
WHAT! JUMPED CLEAR UP TO THE ROOF! BUT WE'VE GOT HIS PAL. BRING HIM INSIDE!
WHAT EVER GOES UP, MUST COME DOWN - AND WHEN HE DOES, WE'LL BE WAITING FOR HIM!
RIGHTO! WE'LL MAKE HIM COME DOWN BY USIN' THIS BOOB AS BAIT! GET IN THERE, YOU! WHAT?
LOOK! THERE HE IS!
AND AS BRAZEN AS BRASS! GIVE 'IM A JOLT OF DIS-RAY!
WELL, SHOOT AT HIM, POOR FOOLS! YOU CAN'T MISS!
WE ARE, B-BUT THEY'RE GOING RIGHT THROUGH HIM!
HEY, WHATTA YA CALL THIS? H-HE'S GETTIN' BIGGER AND BIGGER!
LOOK!


SUDDENLY...
ANOTHER ONE! WHICH IS WHICH?
DUNNO! KEEP BLASTIN' AT THE BOTH OF THEM!
BOTH? LOOK- THERE'S ANOTHER! AND ANOTHER!
HELP! WE'RE SURROUNDED! WHAT'S THAT?
THEY'VE ALL DISAPPEARED! IT WAS ONLY AN ILLUSION! THERE HE IS!
RIGHT! AND I'M SWITCHING ON YOUR PETRIFYING GADGET!
IT'LL ONLY BE TEMPORARY, JUST TO HOLD YOU TILL THE SPACE POLICE COME!
LATER..
NEAT TRICK- OUTWITTIN' THOSE CHEATS WITH THAT NEW BLACK LIGHT RAY, STAR! NOW WE SPLITTIN' THE LOOT?
WET IT ALL GOES BACK TO THE PEOPLE IT BELONGS TO, MINUS TEN PERCENT I'M DEDUCTING FOR THEIR STUPIDITY, AND THAT WILL GO TO CHARITY!
STAR PIRATE
IN EVERY ISSUE
of PLANET COMICS!

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Message From The Dead

By THORNECLIFFE HERRICK

JULY 7, 1960.

This is the last day of my life. I will be the first man to die on the Moon. So I will tell the story briefly and seal the paper in this aluminum capsule—there will be other Moon explorers—maybe they are on their way here now—they will find this capsule and perhaps turn back before it is too late. I am in good health and, on Earth, would still have many years ahead—but here, on the Moon—there are only a few hours left.

There is life on this barren waste. Hideous, primeval life. It is this primitive form of animal matter that is slowly moving toward me at the maddening rate of six feet an hour that will soon crush out the last breath in my body—the last living thought. And there is nothing I can do.

I landed on the Moon three days ago. The trip here was exciting because of the adventuresome spirit of the thing, but otherwise uneventful. It took exactly a week and ten hours from the new rocket chute in the North Field Airport to the plain at the foot of the giant crater—I believe the location was somewhat due west of the dark area that scientists have always called Mare Nostrum.

No words can express the exultation that surged through my veins when I actually felt the terrain of the Moon skimming below the surface of my ship as I brought her down. I shouted like a wild man and tears streamed down my face. My hands were shaking so with excitement that I could hardly adjust my space-helmet and the winches of the air-lock seemed to take hours to unfasten.

At last I had lowered myself to the ground and there I was. The first man to set foot on the Moon!

I stood perfectly still for several minutes, gazing over the vast gray stretch of rocky plain before me. A dust cloud made it hard to see for a while, but I found that my magnesium lamp easily penetrated that. That dancing film of dust made me realize that my first step on the satellite would be a new and momentous experience. The gravitational pull of the Moon is much less than ours—there is no air pressure to hold the fine grains of earth to the surface—no rainfall to moisten it down—hence the perpetual cloud that had probably formed when the sphere itself was still in its early stages of formation—but that was not what concerned me then.

I walked from my ship. But I was not walking—I was almost flying—and it was the most exhilarating sensation I have felt since the days when I used to go swimming in the cold mountain spring on our farm on Earth. I must have looked a strange sight—bouncing around, doing a sort of slap-happy Spring dance in my cumbersome space-suit with its grotesque helmet. All alone, I cavorted in the mist, leaping distances that would have put our champion Olympic stars in the class of toddling infants.

Soon I tired of the abandon and gaiety and soberly went over the supplies I would carry on my first Moon hike. I carried a pack not very differently stocked than those I had used on my camping trips in the Adirondacks, and set out to explore—making sure that my compass was in perfect working condition.

But, I forgot—you, who are reading this now have already experienced this "lighter than air" sensation.

The Moon night is much colder than Earth's. But my sleeping tube was well-equipped with an electrical heating coil and I lay snug and warm on my back—staring at my home planet that changed places with the Moon. But if the Moon had ever looked

so magnificently impressive—so radiantly dazzling, lovers would not only have filled books of verse about it, but whole operas—Hollywood spectacles would have been composed about that single orb. I am an explorer, not a poet, so I cannot begin to describe the breath-taking beauty of that giant circle of light.

I continued in a northeasterly direction for another day. The terrain was monotonously uninterrupted by any sort of vegetation or variation in the flat rock formation But I was nearing the foot of the crater and hoped for something more interesting when I had mounted the summit. I slept that night half way up the crater's edge, but when I awoke the next morning something prompted me to look back over the distance I had just traveled through my telescopic lenses and see if my ship was all right.

I gasped in downright terror at what I saw. Nothing. That was it—the ship was not there! Perhaps, I thought, it's the dust cloud that is hiding it—but my lenses should penetrate that. I looked at my compass. Yes, I was turned in the right direction. Maybe I was misjudging my distance. I adjusted the focus for a longer range.

Something—a mammoth, shapeless form, was retreating into the distance over the rim of a very small crater. And in its slimy folds I recognized the bulge of my rocket ship.

It took another day to retrace my steps, horror gripping me all the way. It was not till this afternoon that I neared the rim of the "thing" that had captured my ship. But I dared not approach within a hundred yards of the oozing creature. A nauseous sickness overcame me just to look at it—or perhaps it was a gas that emanated from the colorless form that penetrated through the canvas of my space-suit.

The best description I can give the "thing" is that it was a protoplasmic glacier that stretched for at least a mile in all directions. It had the substance of a jelly-fish and was about a foot thick. But the strength of that base organic matter was enormous. My ship was already crushed beyond repair. Pieces of metal jutted through the slime but with no harmful effect.

Suddenly I realized that my presence had attracted the Moon monster. It had begun to move toward me and oozed out in encircling tentacles—but I backed up the side of a small crater and almost fell down into its center. For several minutes I rested, trying to overcome the nervous shock that the nausea seemed to produce. Perhaps I lay there longer than I knew. I may even have fallen unconscious—but when I again climbed to the rim I discovered that the entire crater was surrounded by the plasmic slime that was ebbing ever nearer.

It has taken me some time to control my shaking nerves. I am now in the center of the crater and there are only a few feet between me and death. I am glad I remembered to take a notebook in my space suit. It has helped to steady me for the final moment.

Something very interesting has just occurred.

In my ship I carried a case of chemical vials. I had hoped to do some experimenting here. Apparently the beast has broken the case and some of the vials have rolled beneath its weight down the side of the crater. I just caught a glimpse of one containing nitric acid and as I watched the gelatinous folds closed around it, and it burst. The The amœbic substance was decomposed and went up in a cloud of smoke, leaving a hole about ten feet square

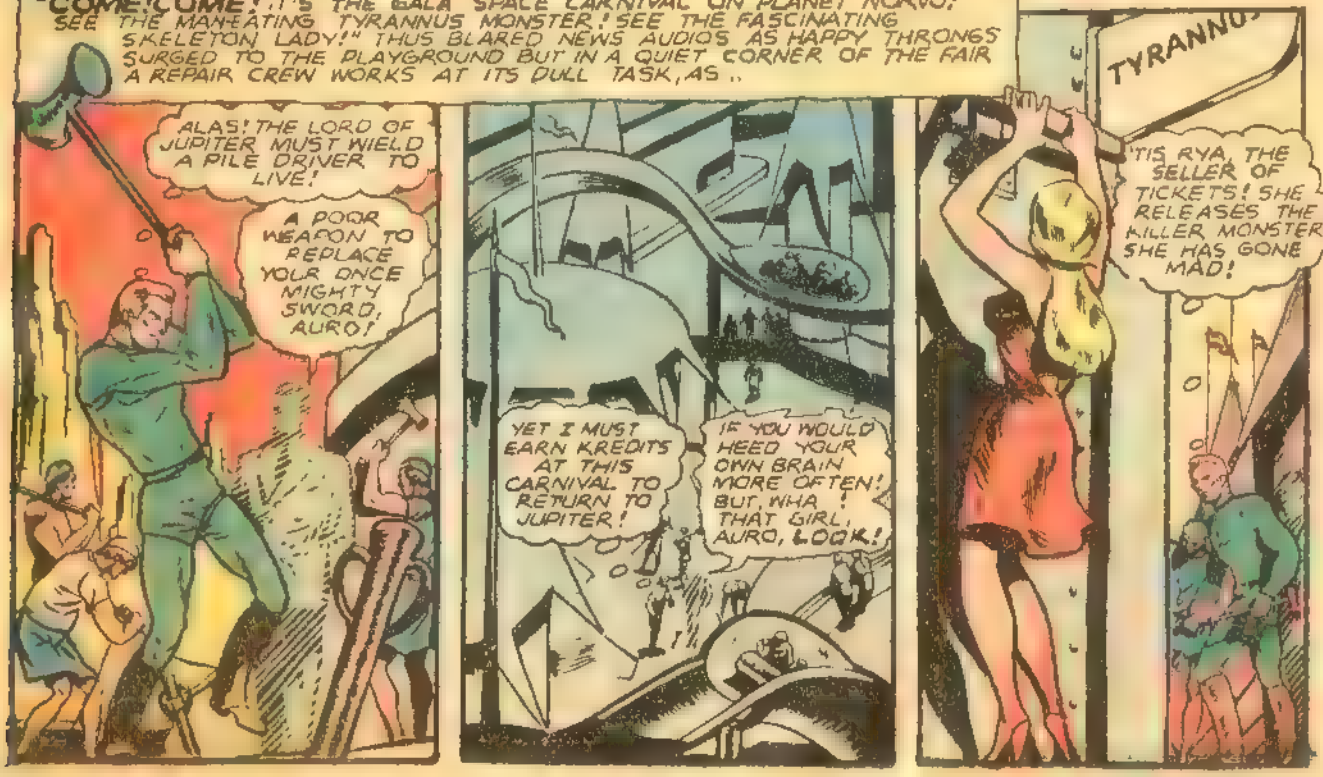
If I only had a large supply of the acid! But I haven't and the hole is already filling in as the monster closes about me. Still, it makes me almost happy to think that someone may read this note in time to prepare himself against the Moon beast. Arm yourselves, explorers of the future, not with guns or ray machines, but with a goodly supply of nitric acid to eat away the treacherous slime that is about to devour me.

The end is near—Goodbye!

AURO
LORD OF JUPITER

BY DICK CHARLES

"COME! COME! IT'S THE GALA SPACE CARNIVAL ON PLANET NORVO! SEE THE MAN-EATING TYRANNUS MONSTER! SEE THE FASCINATING SKELETON LADY!" THUS BLARED NEWS AUDIOS AS HAPPY THRONGS SURGED TO THE PLAYGROUND BUT IN A QUIET CORNER OF THE FAIR A REPAIR CREW WORKS AT ITS DULL TASK, AS ..

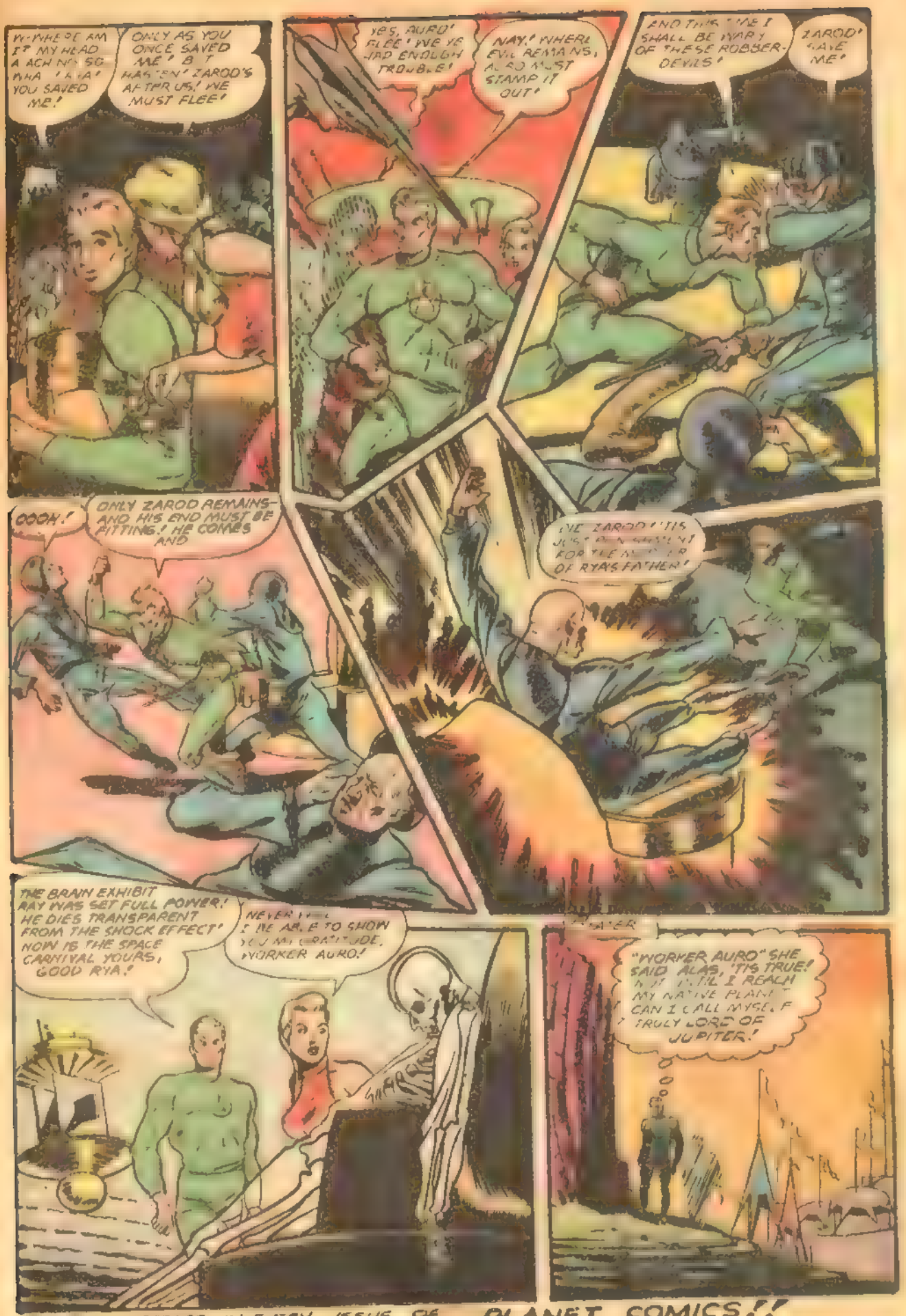

ALAS! THE LORD OF JUPITER MUST WIELD A PILE DRIVER TO LIVE!
A POOR WEAPON TO REPLACE YOUR ONCE MIGHTY SWORD, AURO!
YET I MUST EARN KREDITS AT THIS CARNIVAL TO RETURN TO JUPITER!
IF YOU WOULD HEED YOUR OWN BRAIN MORE OFTEN! BUT, WHA ! THAT GIRL, AURO, LOOK!
TYRANNU
'TIS RYA, THE SELLER OF TICKETS! SHE RELEASES THE KILLER MONSTER SHE HAS GONE MAD!

COME, DEVIL BEAST! ZAROD STROLLS YONDER ON THE MIDWAY! COME FORTH AND KILL HIM!
HALT, MAID! TYRANNUS SPEWS DEATH!
YES! YES! DEATH TO ZAROD FOR KILLING MY FATHER! ATTACK, BEAST!
SHE RAVES! YET THE KILLER IS FREE!
HASTEN, FELLOW WORKER! GIVE ME YOUR PIKE! THE MAID'S MAD ACT MEANS DEATH TO ALL UNLESS I STOP THE BEAST!
AURO! IT IS YOU WHO ARE MAD TO FACE THAT EVIL MONSTER! STOP! HEED ME!
NAY! THERE IS A GREATER EVIL IN THIS CARNIVAL THAN LURKS WITHIN THE BEAST! AH.. HIS HEAD LOWERS...
'TIS DONE! NOW TO UNRAVEL THE MYSTERY OF RYA'S INSANE WORDS!
Y-YOU KILLED HIM— AND ZAROD YET LIVES!
WHY SPEAK YOU THUS OF HE WHO OWNS THE SPACE CARNIVAL, RYA? WHY DO YOU WISH DEATH TO ZAROD?
ZAROD DOES NOT OWN THE FAIR! HE STOLE IT FROM MY FATHER! HE KILLED... BUT LOOK! NO!
2

ZARDO WANTS TO KILL ME! HE FEARS I HAVE PROOF OF MURDER! I OOOH!
THE GIRL HAS PARALYZED HER! WHA ZARDO HIMSELF COMES!
CONGRATULATIONS, WORKER AURO, FOR KILLING THE BRUTE THAT MADE GIRL FREE! I HAD THE GUARD HERE TO PROTECT HER ATTACKING YOU!
ATTACK ME SIR? BUT..
YES! SHE'S QUITE INSANE I'LL PUT HER IN A MENTAL HOME! YOU'LL HAVE A RAISE IN SALARY FOR THIS, AURO! GOOD WORK!
ER YES ZARDO SIR!
THUS IS THE INCIDENT OF A MAN-KILLING SPACE CREATURE; A FRIGHTENED INSANE GIRL, AND A STERN CARNIVAL PROPRIETOR APPARENTLY CLOSED — TO ALL BUT WORKER AURO FOR HIS MIND IS A TWOFOLD ORGAN. THE BRAIN OF A DEAD EARTHMAN CHET EDSON AND THE HEAD AND BODY OF JUPITER'S GREATEST LORD. AND SO, WITH TROUBLED SPIRIT AURO CIRCLES THE GAY MIDWAY, THE TWO FORCES WITHIN HIM IN CONSTANT STRUGGLE...
STRANGE I CHECKED TO FIND THAT RYAS RATHER DID INDEED OWN THIS CARNIVAL! SHE SPOKE TRUTH!
GET WHAT PROOF OF HER FATHER'S MURDER AURO?
I HAVE NOT PROOF OF MURDER YET IT'S ONLY ZARDO DISINTEGRATOR RAYS ON HER WHEN SHE ATTACKED ME NOT!
BAH ALSO! OH TROUBLE! KEEP HER OH!
I WILL FIGHT EVIL ALWAYS IT MEANS NOTHING WHAT! THAT BOOK!
RIDE THE JET BOLT
IS NOTHING AURO! YOU HAVE NOT AT ALL!
A SCREAM! IS RYA SOME ONE IS TRYING TO KILL HER!

LET ME GO! YOU'RE AFRAID OF ME! I KNOW YOU KILLED MY FATHER! YOU WANT TO KILL ME!
EXACTLY, RYA! WE LET YOU STAY ON AS A TICKET SELLER ! NOW YOU'RE TOO DANGEROUS! WHO...?
DANGER EXPLOSIVE CHAMBER
'TIS AURO, ZAROD! I WAS A FOOL NOT TO BELIEVE RYA! NOW TASTE MY VENGEANCE!
ZAROD! RYA IS ESCAPING! THIS WORKER FIGHTS WITH A MONSTER'S FURY! HELP US!
LATER...
COME ONE! COME ALL! SEE THE HUMAN BRAIN! IT LIVES! IT TALKS! IT'S THE MIRACLE OF THE AGE! TICKETS HERE! ENTER AND BE AMAZED!
HELP!
FEAR NOT! THIS SILENCES AURO! YET HEAR ME! I HAVE AN IDEA TO SILENCE HIM FOREVER!
ING
BRAIN
IT SPEAKS!! LISTEN
INSIDE...
LADIES AND GENTLEMEN! THE SUBJECT IS READY! WE THROW THE SWITCH! WATCH!
THE UNCONSCIOUS AURO CAN'T KNOW WHAT WE DO!
THIS KEEPS HIM FROM BLABBING, AND NO SUSPICIONS AROUSED! AAH... THE TRANSPARA-CONTROL RAY TAKES EFFECT! AURO'S BRAIN IS VISIBLE! SOON IT WILL TALK AND SAY ONLY WHAT ZAROD WILLS! WHAT!
4

SUDDENLY...
RISE, AURO! FIGHT THE RAY EFFECT! DON'T LET THEM CONTROL YOUR THOUGHTS! MAKE YOUR WILL POWER BATTLE THE CONTROL ELECTRODES!
FIGHT, AURO! FIGHT BACK!
IT'S NOT AURO'S BRAIN SPEAKING! IT'S THE BRAIN OF ANOTHER WITHIN HIS HEAD THAT RUINS THE CONTROL EFFECT!
I'VE GOT TO USE MORE POWER! THE AUDIENCE CAN HEAR THAT OTHER BRAIN TALKING! IT WILL TELL THEM WHAT AURO KNOWS ABOUT ME!
AURO! WE'RE LOSING! I CAN'T MAKE YOU FEEL MY WILL ANY MORE! MY BRAIN CELLS DISINTEGRATE! YOU'RE DYING... DYING!
MODIT DANCE
WHILE
I FOLLOWED ZAROD WHEN HE TOOK AURO TO HIS BRAIN EXHIBITION! THIS BACK HALL'S MY ONLY CHANCE! WHA...! THEY'RE BURNING HIS BRAIN! I MUST ACT!
I'VE GOT TO SMASH THE CONTROL APPARATUS! THERE! BUT ZAROD SEES ME!
IT'S RYA! SHE'S FREEING AURO! SEIZE THEM BOTH! QUICK! ZAROD COMMANDS!


WHERE AM I? MY HEAD ACHES SO! WHA' HAPPENED? YOU SAVED ME!
ONLY AS YOU ONCE SAVED ME! BUT HASTEN! ZARROD'S AFTER US! WE MUST FLEE!
YES, AURO! FLEE! WE'VE HAD ENOUGH TROUBLE!
NAY! WHERE EVIL REMAINS, ALSO MUST STAMP IT OUT!
AND THIS TIME I SHALL BE WARY OF THESE ROBBER-DEVILS!
ZARROD! SAVE ME!
OOOH!
ONLY ZARROD REMAINS— AND HIS END MUST BE FITTING! HE COMES AND
I'VE ZARROD! 'TIS JUST [illegible] FOR [illegible] OF RYA'S FATHER!
THE BRAIN EXHIBIT RAY WAS SET FULL POWER! HE DIES TRANSPARENT FROM THE SHOCK EFFECT! NOW IS THE SPACE CARNIVAL YOURS, GOOD RYA!
NEVER [illegible] I'VE BEEN ABLE TO SHOW YOU MY GRATITUDE, WORKER AURO!
LATER
"WORKER AURO" SHE SAID ALAS, 'TIS TRUE! [illegible] UNTIL I REACH MY NATIVE PLANET CAN I CALL MYSELF TRULY LORD OF JUPITER!

AURO APPEARS IN EVERY ISSUE OF PLANET COMICS!!

Life on other Worlds

SPACE POLICE

HARDY ADVENTURERS OF THE FUTURE WILL JOIN THE SPACE POLICE FORCE DUTY ASSIGNMENTS WILL BRING THEM TO THE FAR-FLUNG OUTPOSTS OF THE UNIVERSE AND OFTEN THEY WILL LAND ON UNKNOWN ASTEROIDS TO TRACK DOWN THE VICIOUS SLAVER WHO PLIES THE SPACEWAYS IN SEARCH OF LOOT--HUMAN LOOT! BUT ONLY A SMALL NUMBER OF THESE POOR UNFORTUNATE VICTIMS WILL REACH THE SLAVE MARTS OF DISTANT PLANETS, FOR THE SPACE POLICE, ARMED WITH SCIENTIFIC KNOWLEDGE AND A DEADLY RAY GUN, WILL FERRET OUT THESE RATS AND BLAST THEM FROM THE SOLAR SYSTEM!

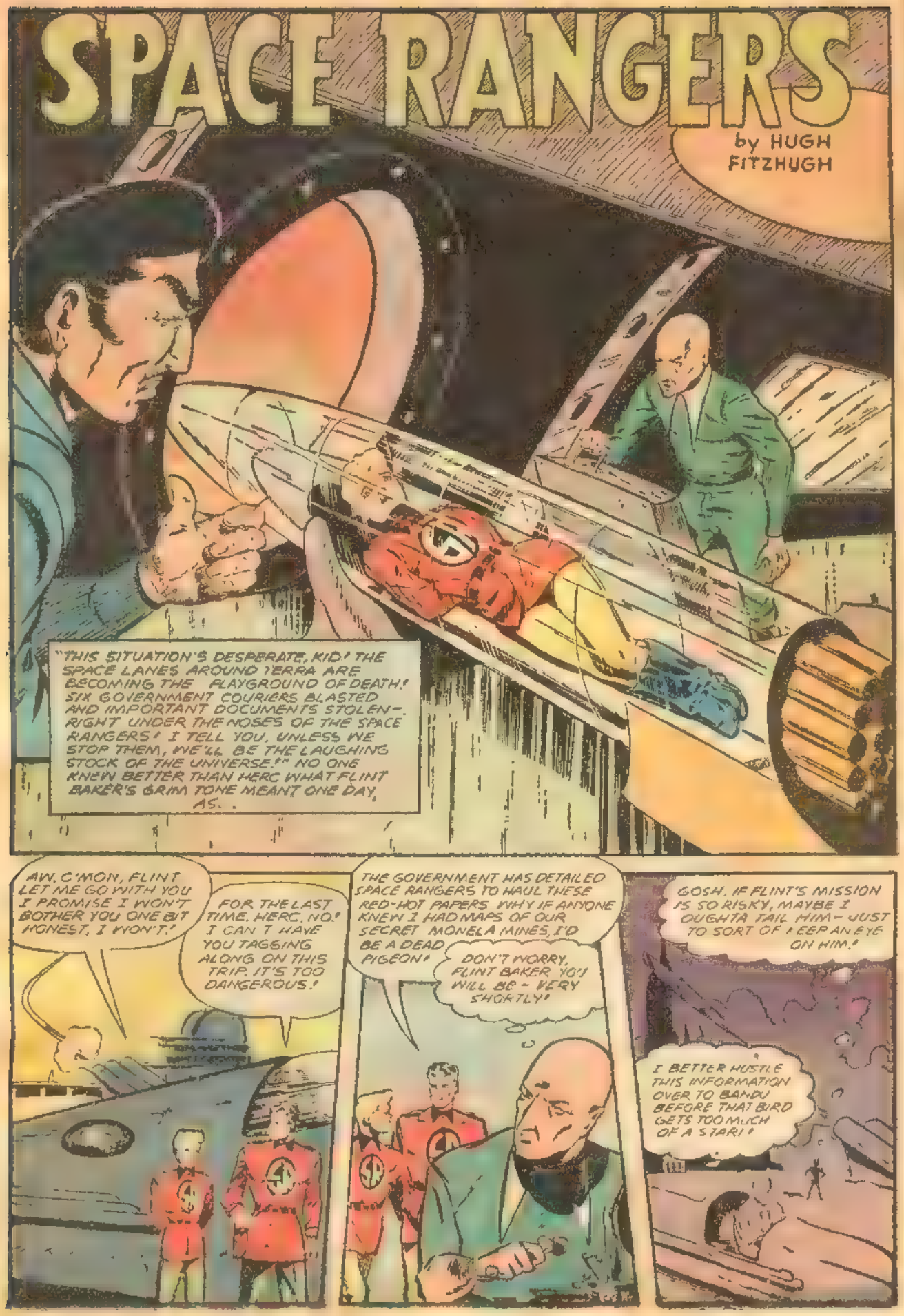
ROBBERY... BUT THE EVER-ALERT SPACE POLICE SPOT IT FROM ABOVE AS THEY PATROL IN A CRUISER-SLED, AND THE AMAZING ROCKO-CHUTE ENABLES THEM TO NIP IT IN THE BUD!

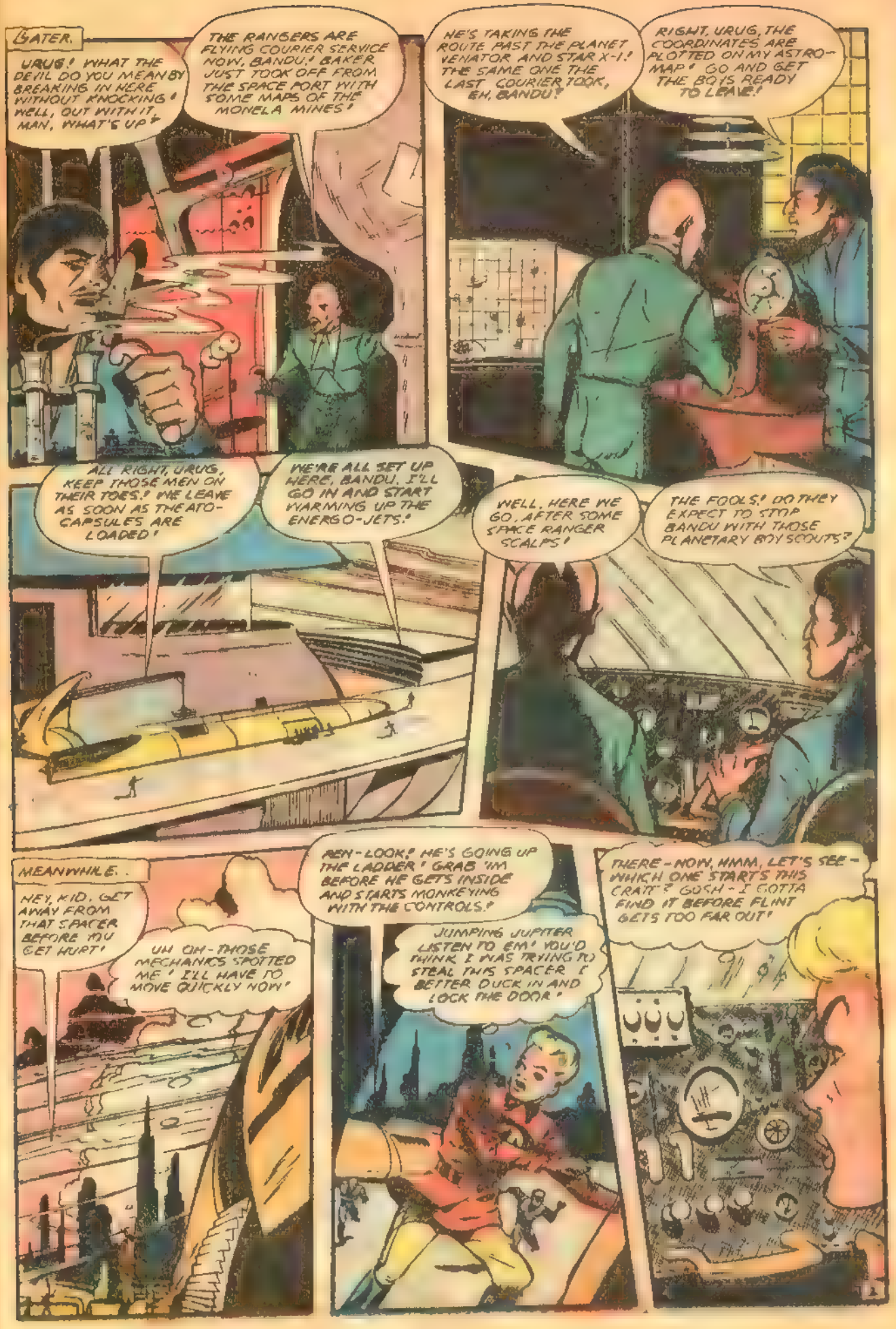
PIRACY... DISPLAYING THE DREAD JOLLY ROGER, CRAFTY SCAVENGERS OF THE SPACEWAYS ARE THE ROGUES WHO TAKE ADVANTAGE OF UNPATROLLED LANES -- SOMETIMES GETTING AWAY WITH IT!

TRAINING... SUPER INTELLIGENCE IS REQUIRED OF THE SPACE POLICE BEFORE ASSIGNMENTS ARE GIVEN. THEY ARE BRIEFED IN SPLIT SECONDS ON THE VISA-SCREEN!

CANDIDATES FACE STIFF EXAMS OF ADVANCED MATHEMATICS, ELECTRO-DYNAMICS AND ATO-CHEMISTRY—RUGGED TESTS OF PHYSICAL FITNESS AND THE CANDIDATES MUST PASS THEM ALL!

THE FULL FLEDGED SPACE POLICEMAN, IS TRULY A SUPERMAN, OF NECESSITY. RUGGEDNESS OF BODY AND RAZOR SHARPNESS OF MIND WILL CHARACTERIZE THEM ALL. YES, HE'S A READY MAN WITH A HEARTY LAUGH, OR, FOR THOSE WHO BREAK THE ASTRAL LAWS, THE SINGING WHINE OF THE DEATH RAY!

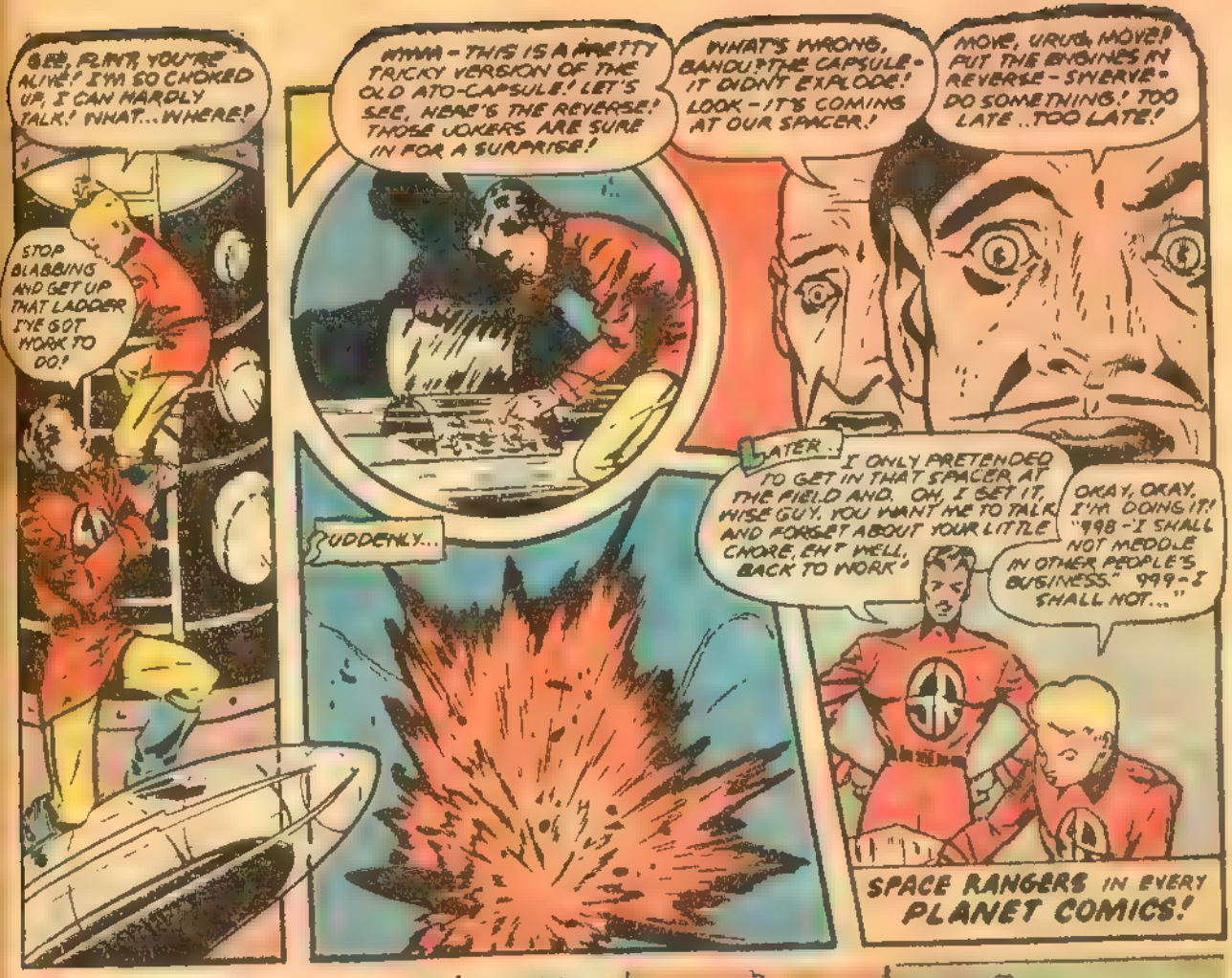

SPACE RANGERS
by HUGH FITZHUGH
"THIS SITUATION'S DESPERATE, KID! THE SPACE LANES AROUND TERRA ARE BECOMING THE PLAYGROUND OF DEATH! SIX GOVERNMENT COURIERS BLASTED AND IMPORTANT DOCUMENTS STOLEN— RIGHT UNDER THE NOSES OF THE SPACE RANGERS! I TELL YOU, UNLESS WE STOP THEM, WE'LL BE THE LAUGHING STOCK OF THE UNIVERSE!" NO ONE KNEW BETTER THAN HERC WHAT FLINT BAKER'S GRIM TONE MEANT ONE DAY, AS.
AW, C'MON, FLINT LET ME GO WITH YOU I PROMISE I WON'T BOTHER YOU ONE BIT HONEST, I WON'T!
FOR THE LAST TIME, HERC, NO! I CAN'T HAVE YOU TAGGING ALONG ON THIS TRIP. IT'S TOO DANGEROUS!
THE GOVERNMENT HAS DETAILED SPACE RANGERS TO HAUL THESE RED-HOT PAPERS WHY IF ANYONE KNEW I HAD MAPS OF OUR SECRET MONELA MINES, I'D BE A DEAD PIGEON!
DON'T WORRY, FLINT BAKER YOU WILL BE— VERY SHORTLY!
GOSH. IF FLINT'S MISSION IS SO RISKY, MAYBE I OUGHTA TAIL HIM— JUST TO SORT OF KEEP AN EYE ON HIM!
I BETTER HUSTLE THIS INFORMATION OVER TO BANDU BEFORE THAT BIRD GETS TOO MUCH OF A START!


LATER.
URUG! WHAT THE DEVIL DO YOU MEAN BY BREAKING IN HERE WITHOUT KNOCKING! WELL, OUT WITH IT, MAN, WHAT'S UP?
THE RANGERS ARE FLYING COURIER SERVICE NOW, BANDU! BAKER JUST TOOK OFF FROM THE SPACE PORT WITH SOME MAPS OF THE MONELA MINES!
HE'S TAKING THE ROUTE PAST THE PLANET VENATOR AND STAR X-1! THE SAME ONE THE LAST COURIER TOOK, EH, BANDU?
RIGHT, URUG, THE COORDINATES ARE PLOTTED ON MY ASTRO-MAP! GO AND GET THE BOYS READY TO LEAVE!
ALL RIGHT, URUG, KEEP THOSE MEN ON THEIR TOES! WE LEAVE AS SOON AS THE ATO-CAPSULES ARE LOADED!
WE'RE ALL SET UP HERE, BANDU. I'LL GO IN AND START WARMING UP THE ENERGO-JETS!
WELL, HERE WE GO, AFTER SOME SPACE RANGER SCALPS!
THE FOOLS! DO THEY EXPECT TO STOP BANDU WITH THOSE PLANETARY BOY SCOUTS?
MEANWHILE..
HEY, KID, GET AWAY FROM THAT SPACER BEFORE YOU GET HURT!
UH OH - THOSE MECHANICS SPOTTED ME! I'LL HAVE TO MOVE QUICKLY NOW!
BEN - LOOK! HE'S GOING UP THE LADDER! GRAB 'IM BEFORE HE GETS INSIDE AND STARTS MONKEYING WITH THE CONTROLS!
JUMPING JUPITER LISTEN TO 'EM! YOU'D THINK I WAS TRYING TO STEAL THIS SPACER! I BETTER DUCK IN AND LOCK THE DOOR!
THERE - NOW, HMM, LET'S SEE - WHICH ONE START'S THIS CRAFT? GOSH - I GOTTA FIND IT BEFORE FLINT GETS TOO FAR OUT!

KEEP YOUR EYES PEELED FOR THAT RANGER SHIP, URUG. HE SHOULD BE HERE PRETTY SOON!
LOOK – THERE HE IS NOW! THIS'LL BE JUST LIKE SHOOTING FISH IN A BARREL. PUT 'ER INTO A DIVE, BANOU!
OKAY URUG! HERE – YOU TAKE THE CONTROLS! I'M GOING BACK TO WATCH THE BLASTER KNOCK THAT SPACER OUT OF THE SKIES!
I'VE GOT 'EM, BANOU! GO ON BACK – AND GUUD SHOOTING
NOW DONT GET RAY-HAPPY, GUNNER! I WANT BAKER'S SHIP CRIPPLED – NOT DISINTEGRATED! GOT IT?
RIGHT CHIEF! I WAIT UNTIL HIS TAIL ASSEMBLY REACHES THE CROSS-HAIRS, AND THEN...
WELL, I FINALLY MADE IT – BUT SUFFERIN' SATURN... THERE'S AN UNIDENTIFIED SPACER, SITTING ON FLINT'S BACK!
HEY, GUNNER, LOOK ANOTHER SPACER'S COMING UP FAST! C'MON, YOU'RE SHOOTING LIKE AN AMATEUR! FINISH 'IM OFF BEFORE IT'S TOO LATE!
WHEW – THAT WAS A CLOSE SQUEAK FUR FLINT, BUT THAT SPACER IS MOVING IN AGAIN FOR A SECOND TRY! I'VE GOT TO THINK... GOT TO DO SOMETHING – QUICK!
SUDDENLY
HE'S HIT.. FLAMES SHOOTING FROM THE SHIP! WHY THOSE DIRTY, FILTHY MURDERERS... THEY'VE KILLED HIM... KILLED MY BUDDY, FLINT!

MEANWHILE..
EVERYTHING WORKED PERFECTLY! THAT HIJACKER WAS SUCKED RIGHT INTO OUR TRAP -- THINKING I WAS IN THAT ROBOT-CONTROLLED SPACER! BUT NOW SOME FOOL IS MOVING IN!
UNLESS WE ACT QUICKLY, OUR PLAN MAY BE FOULED UP! FOLLOW ROUTE ZM 6. ORDER ALL MEN TO BATTLE STATIONS AND STAND BY WITH A BOARDING PARTY!
RIGHT, FLINT! THAT SPACE PIRATE'LL NEVER SQUIRM OUT OF THIS AMBUSH!
5
I'VE GOT TO GET THOSE MURDERING DOGS FOR FLINT'S SAKE! BUT HOW NOW? I HAVE NO WEAPONS! WAIT I'LL RAM THEM -- THAT'S WHAT I'LL DO!
BANDU -LOOK, THAT CRAZY PILOT'S HEADED HIS SPACER RIGHT FOR OURS! WE'LL CRASH!
STOP SCREAMING, YOU IDIOT! THIS STATO-RAY'LL HOLD 'IM! GO AND GET THE SPACE SLED READY, URUG!
C'MON, START THIS CRATE ROLLING, URUG! I WANT TO SEE WHO'S ABOARD THAT SPACER. I'LL TEACH HIM TO STICK HIS NOSE IN MY BUSINESS!
YEAH -- BUT I DON'T LIKE THIS, BANDU! WE BETTER BE CAGEY, IT MAY BE SOME TRICK!
SSSS

LATER
LET ME GO, YOU FIENDS! YOU'LL NEVER GET AWAY WITH IT. THE SPACE RANGERS'LL COME AND
STOP IT, KID, BEFORE I DIE LAUGHING! THOSE ROVER BOYS COULDN'T CATCH A COLD. OKAY, BRING 'IM OVER, THE ATO-CAPSULE'S READY!
THERE - HE'S ALL TUCKED IN - NICE AND COZY! HAVE A PLEASANT SLEEP, YOU BRAT, IT'S GOING TO LAST FOR A LONG TIME!
STOP GABBING, URUG, AND BRING 'IM OVER TO THE LAUNCHING TUBE. HURRY - THAT CAPSULE'LL GO OFF IN ABOUT TWO MINS!
BYE-BYE, SMALL FRY! GIVE MY REGARDS TO YOUR PAL, BAKER! TELL 'IM WE'LL KEEP THE COURIER SERVICE MOVING!
WATCH, URUG! WHEN THAT ATO-CAPSULE BLOWS, THERE WON'T BE ENOUGH PIECES OF THAT KID TO MAKE A... HEY, WAIT - THAT SPACER-BEARING DOWN ON THE CAPSULE!
SUDDENLY
BAKER.. LOOK - A STRANGE MISSILE PASSING UNDER US!
WHAT? HOLD IT WITH THE MAGNETO RAY AND LOWER THE EMERGO-TUBE! I'M GOING DOWN TO HAVE A LOOK!
WHY - IT'S HERC INSIDE THAT PROJECTILE! WHAT THE DEVIL'S GOING ON HERE? HE'S TRYING TO SAY SOMETHING!
LOOK - ON THE TELE-SCREEN! IT'S FLINT BAKER! IT'S IMPOSSIBLE! HE'S DEAD!
NO, HE ISN'T, YOU FOOL, BUT HE WILL BE IN ABOUT ONE SECO - FOR KEEPS!
5


SEB, FLINT, YOU'RE ALIVE! I'M SO CHOKED UP, I CAN HARDLY TALK! WHAT...WHERE?
STOP BLABBING AND GET UP THAT LADDER I'VE GOT WORK TO DO!
HMMM - THIS IS A PRETTY TRICKY VERSION OF THE OLD ATO-CAPSULE! LET'S SEE, HERE'S THE REVERSE! THOSE JOKERS ARE SURE IN FOR A SURPRISE!
WHAT'S WRONG, BANDU? THE CAPSULE - IT DIDN'T EXPLODE! LOOK - IT'S COMING AT OUR SPACER!
MOVE, URUK, MOVE! PUT THE ENGINES IN REVERSE - SWERVE - DO SOMETHING! TOO LATE ..TOO LATE!
SUDDENLY...
LATER -
I ONLY PRETENDED TO GET IN THAT SPACER AT THE FIELD AND, OH, I GET IT, WISE GUY, YOU WANT ME TO TALK AND FORGET ABOUT YOUR LITTLE CHORE, EH? WELL, BACK TO WORK"
OKAY, OKAY, I'M DOING IT! "998 - I SHALL NOT MEDDLE IN OTHER PEOPLE'S BUSINESS." "999 - I SHALL NOT..."
SPACE RANGERS IN EVERY PLANET COMICS!

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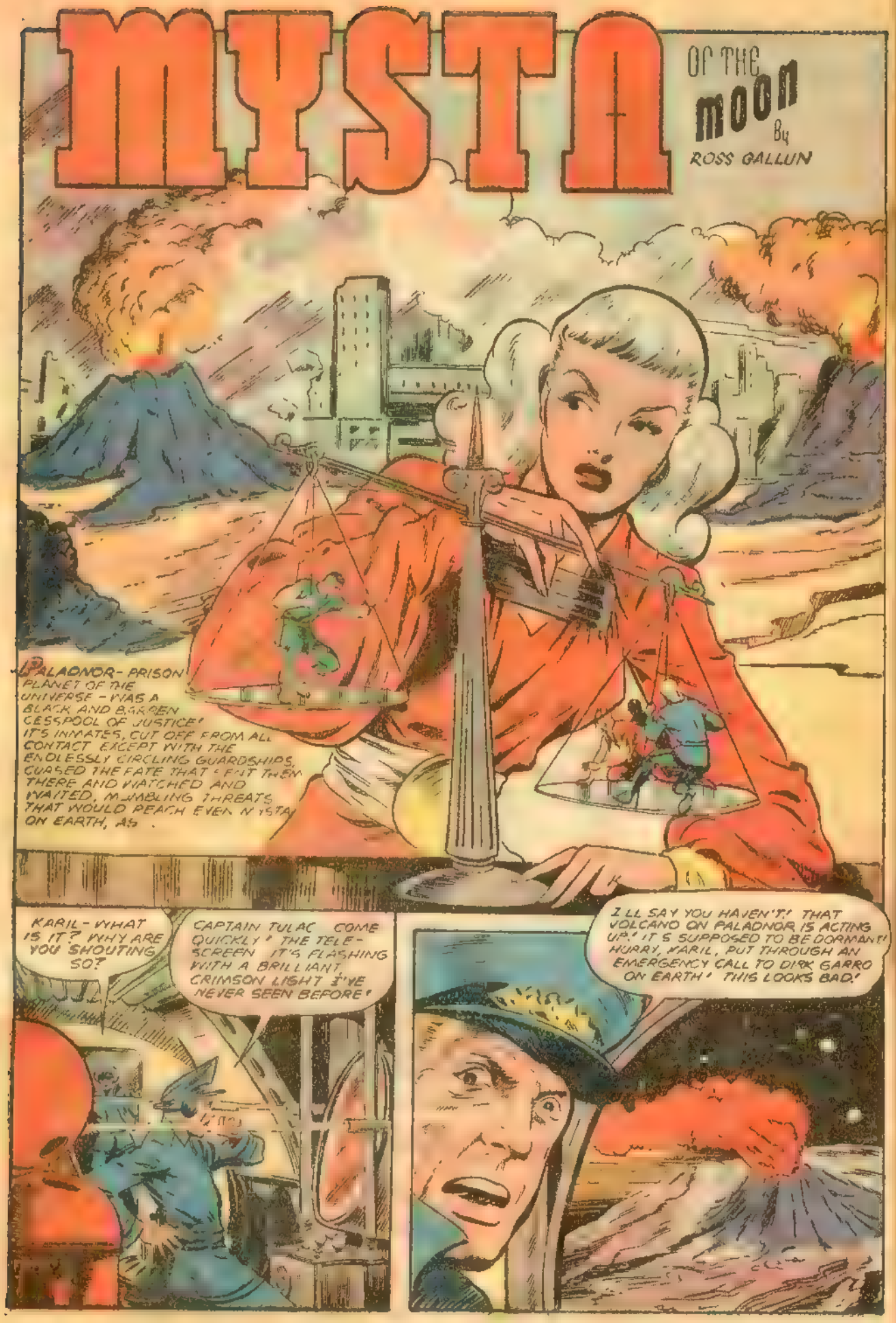
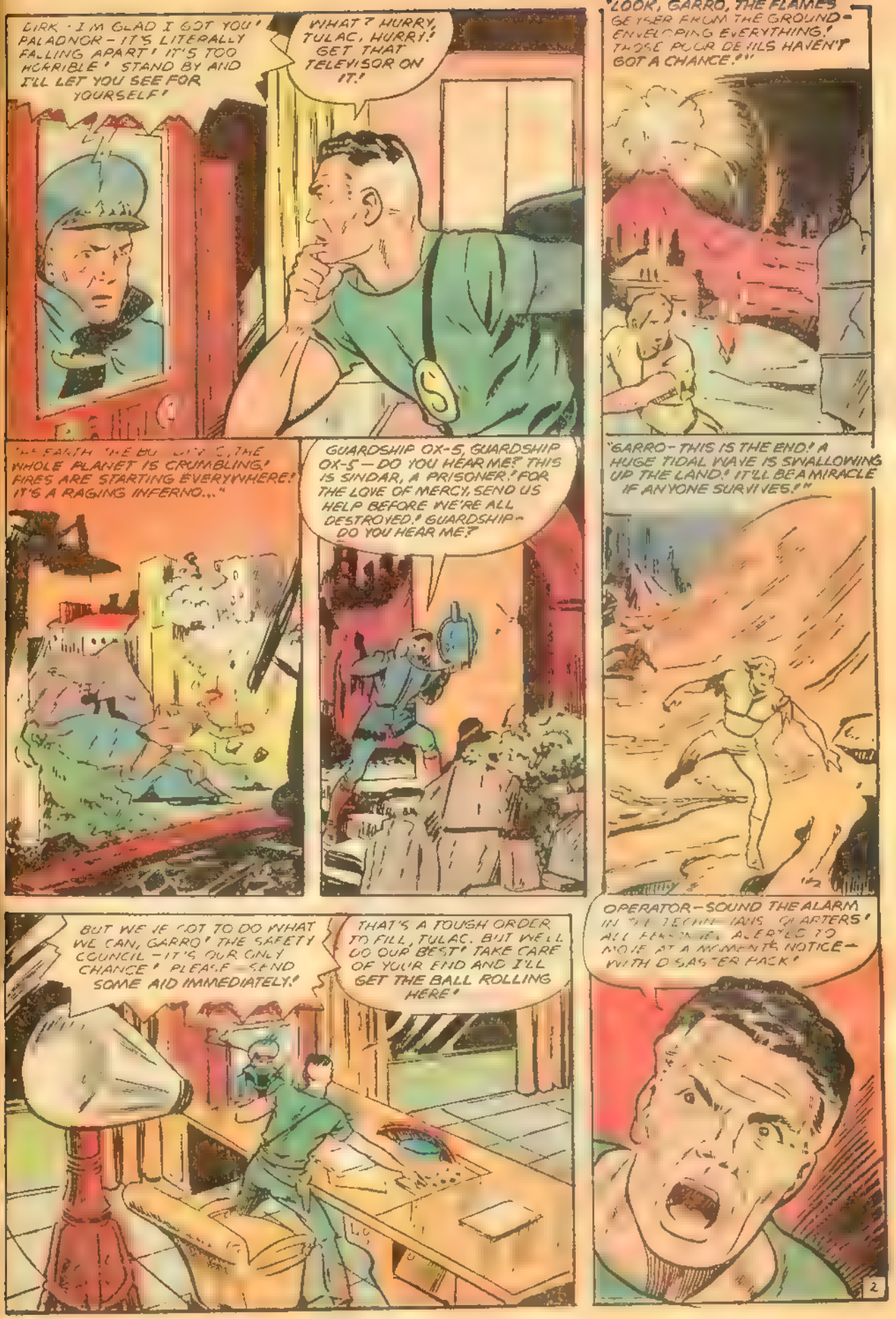
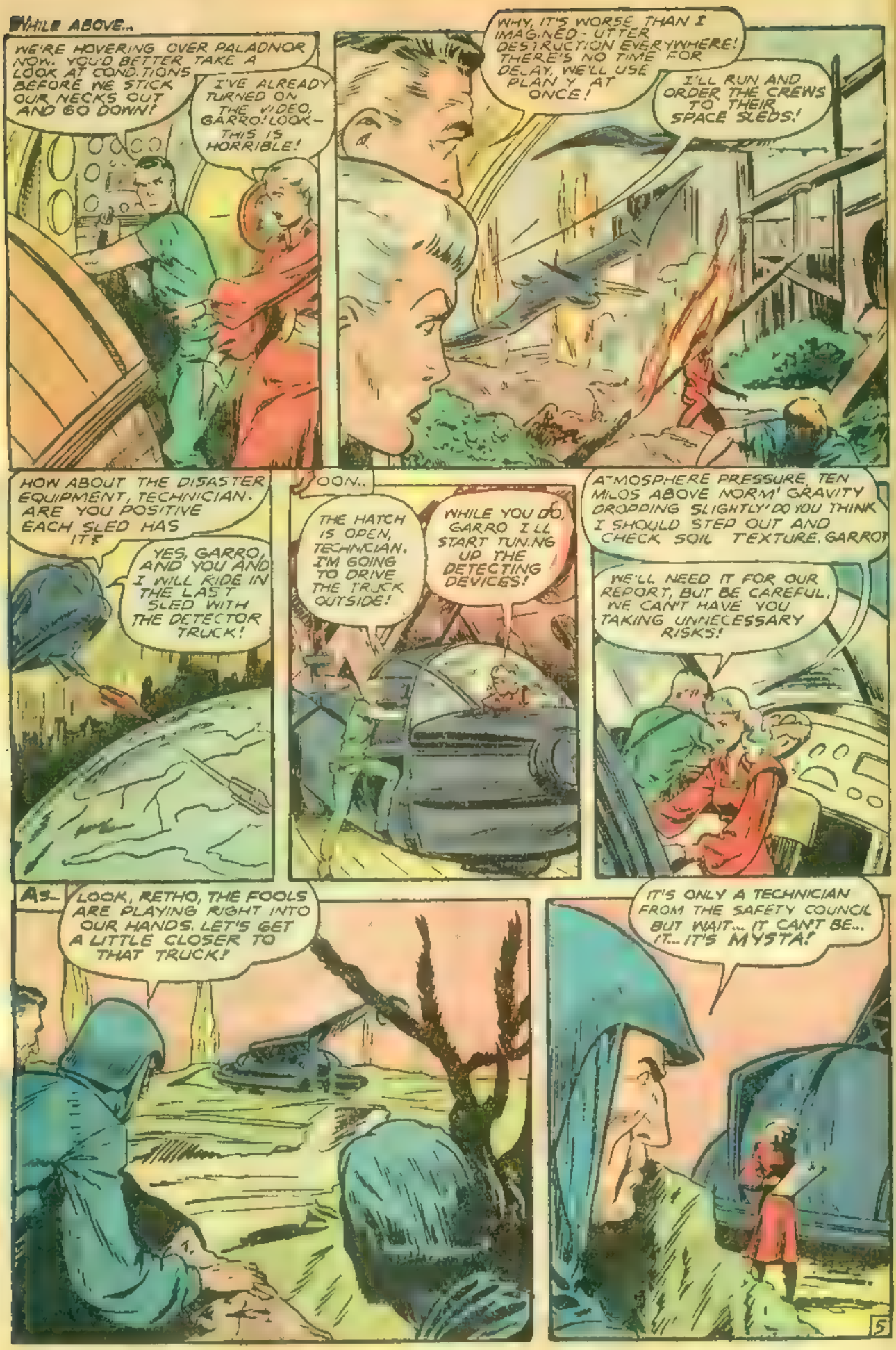
LOOK FOR THE [illegible] NOVELTY IN EVERY BOX
Cracker Jack
THE MORE YOU EAT - THE MORE YOU WANT
BEST TREAT OF ALL, ON A HALLOWE'EN CALL
IT'S CRISPY CRUNCHY CANDY COATED POPCORN WITH PEANUTS

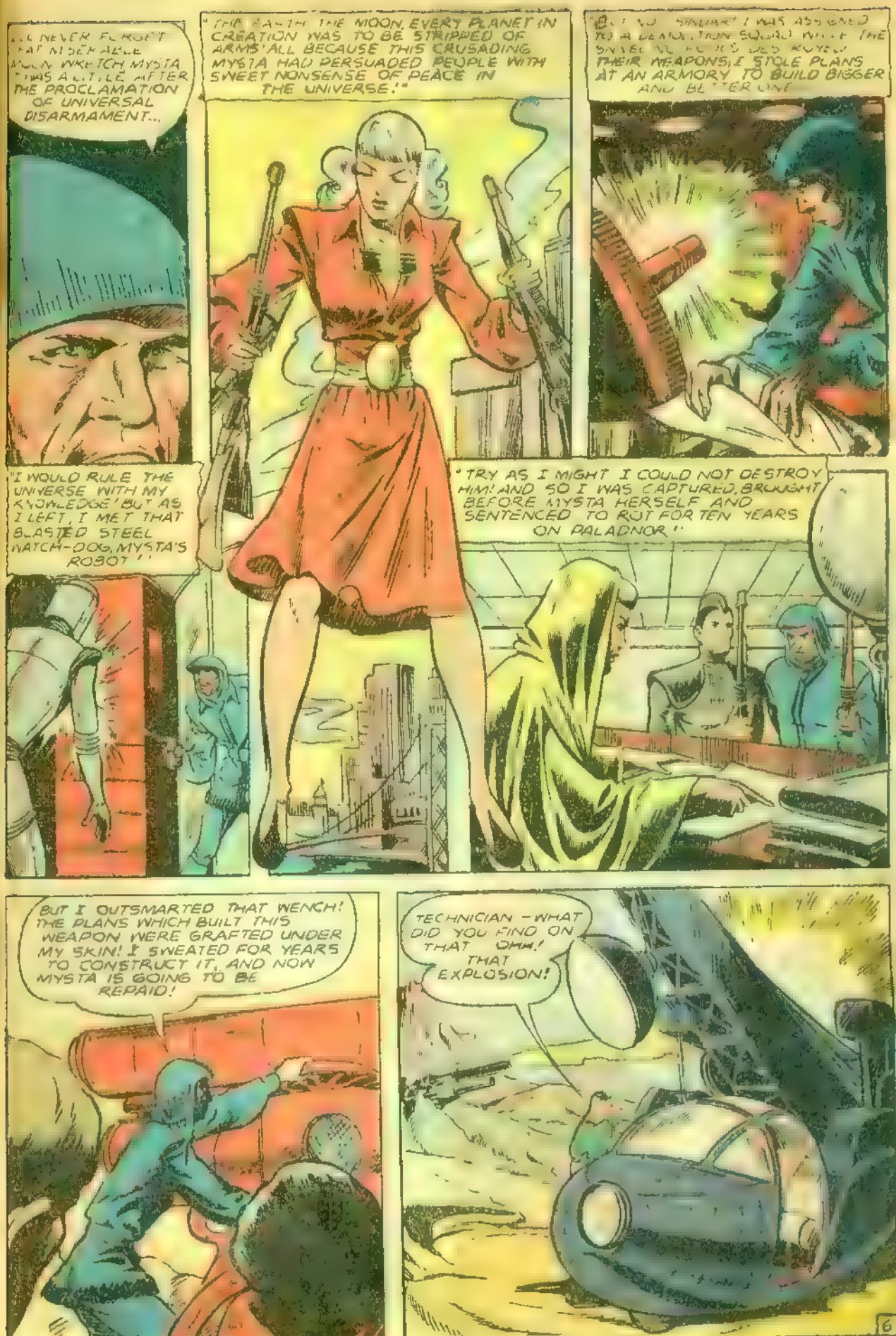

MYSTA
OF THE moon
By
ROSS GALLUN
PALADNOR - PRISON PLANET OF THE UNIVERSE - WAS A BLACK AND BARREN CESSPOOL OF JUSTICE! IT'S INMATES, CUT OFF FROM ALL CONTACT EXCEPT WITH THE ENDLESSLY CIRCLING GUARDSHIPS, CURSED THE FATE THAT PUT THEM THERE AND WATCHED AND WAITED, MUMBLING THREATS THAT WOULD REACH EVEN MYSTA ON EARTH, AS
KARIL - WHAT IS IT? WHY ARE YOU SHOUTING SO?
CAPTAIN TULAC COME QUICKLY! THE TELE-SCREEN IT'S FLASHING WITH A BRILLIANT CRIMSON LIGHT I'VE NEVER SEEN BEFORE!
I'LL SAY YOU HAVEN'T! THAT VOLCANO ON PALADNOR IS ACTING UP! IT'S SUPPOSED TO BE DORMANT! HURRY, KARIL, PUT THROUGH AN EMERGENCY CALL TO DIRK GARRO ON EARTH! THIS LOOKS BAD!

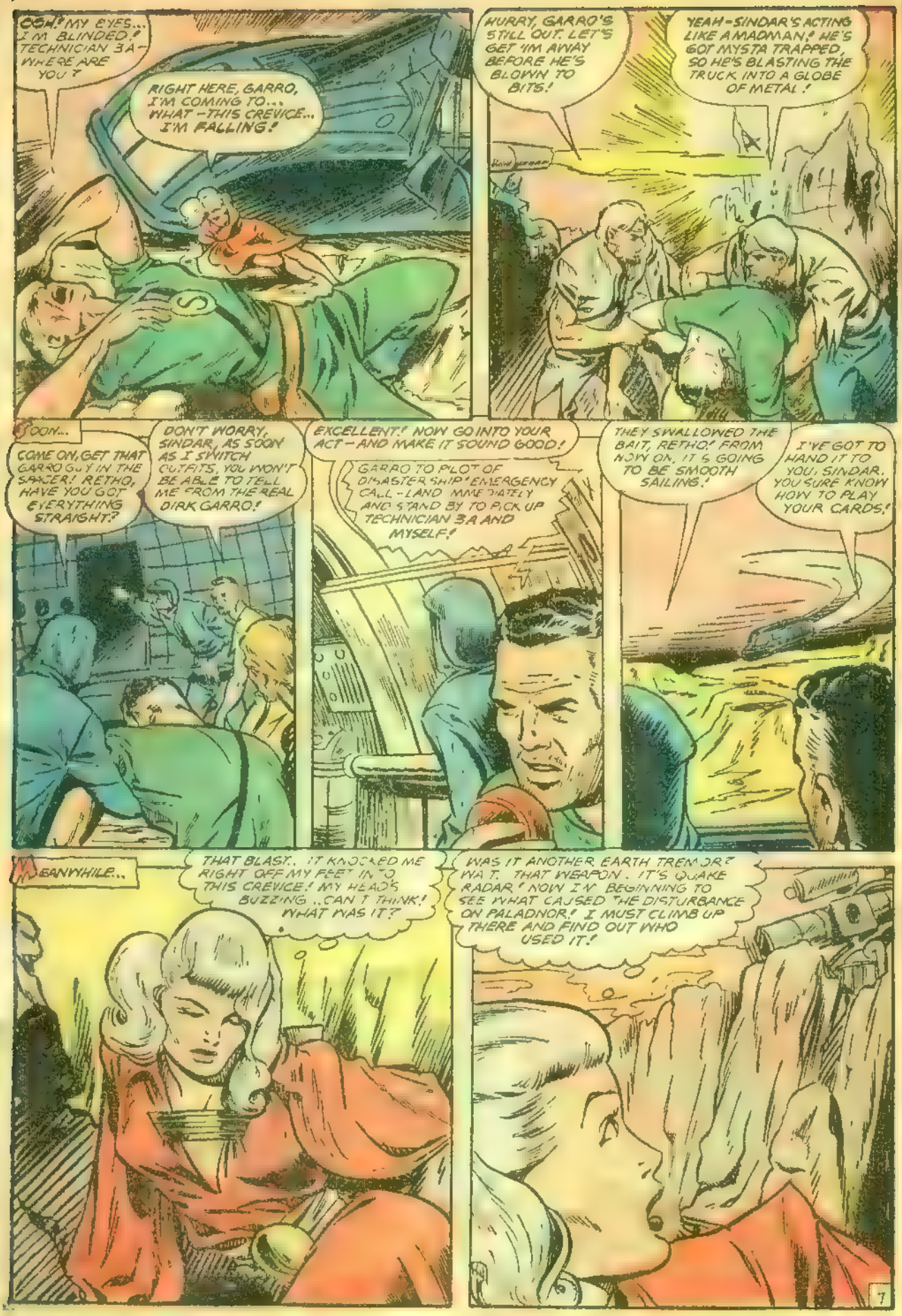

DIRK - I'M GLAD I GOT YOU! PALADNOR - IT'S LITERALLY FALLING APART! IT'S TOO HORRIBLE! STAND BY AND I'LL LET YOU SEE FOR YOURSELF!
WHAT? HURRY, TULAC, HURRY! GET THAT TELEVISOR ON IT!
"LOOK, GARRO, THE FLAMES GE[illegible]ER FROM THE GROUND - ENVELOPING EVERYTHING! THOSE POOR DEVILS HAVEN'T GOT A CHANCE!"
"THE EARTH [illegible] C, THE WHOLE PLANET IS CRUMBLING! FIRES ARE STARTING EVERYWHERE! IT'S A RAGING INFERNO..."
GUARDSHIP OX-5, GUARDSHIP OX-5 — DO YOU HEAR ME? THIS IS SINDAR, A PRISONER! FOR THE LOVE OF MERCY, SEND US HELP BEFORE WE'RE ALL DESTROYED! GUARDSHIP - DO YOU HEAR ME?
"GARRO - THIS IS THE END! A HUGE TIDAL WAVE IS SWALLOWING UP THE LAND! IT'LL BE A MIRACLE IF ANYONE SURVIVES!"
BUT WE [illegible] GOT TO DO WHAT WE CAN, GARRO! THE SAFETY COUNCIL - IT'S OUR ONLY CHANCE! PLEASE - SEND SOME AID IMMEDIATELY!
THAT'S A TOUGH ORDER TO FILL, TULAC. BUT WE'LL DO OUR BEST! TAKE CARE OF YOUR END AND I'LL GET THE BALL ROLLING HERE!
OPERATOR - SOUND THE ALARM IN THE TECHNICIANS QUARTERS! ALL [illegible] ALERT TO MOVE AT A MOMENT'S NOTICE - WITH DISASTER PACK!
2

INSTANTLY...
THE ALERT. (YAWN)...AND JUST WHEN I WAS HAVING SUCH A WONDERFUL DREAM! I WONDER WHAT'S UP?
THIS IS NO TIME FOR GUESSING GAMES, TYRA! SAY - WHERE'S TECHNICIAN 3A? HER BED'S EMPTY!
A
WHILE IN THE LABORATORY..
I KNOW I COULD USE THE SLEEP, BUT I'VE GOT TO COMPLETE THIS EXPERIMENT! WAIT... THERE'S SOMEONE AT THE DOOR!
TYRA - WHAT IS IT? WHAT HAPPENED?
COME ON, WONDER GIRL OF SCIENCE, YOUR BOSS GARRO WANTS YOU AT THE THE SPACEPORT - ON THE DOUBLE - DISASTER ALERT!
HOW DO YOU LIKE THAT? THEY GET US ALL OUT OF BED, AND THEN TEACHER'S PET HERE IS THE ONLY ONE FROM THE SQUAD SELECTED TO GO!
THE LITTLE CAT - SHE'S GREEN WITH JEALOUSY!
WHAT'S WRONG, GARRO? I CAME AS SOON AS THE GIRLS TOLD ME YOU WANTED ME ON A DISASTER ALERT!
YES, TECHNICIAN - IT'S PALADNOR! VOLCANIC ERUPTIONS ARE SHAKING IT QUICKLY - IN THE SPACER, I'LL BRIEF YOU LATER! WE'RE READY TO BLAST OFF NOW!
CONTROL TOWER TO PILOT! DISASTER SHIP - LOADED AND LOCKED! ALL CLEAR - PERMISSION GRANTED TO TAKE OFF AT ONCE!
WHISPER, A ROAR - THEN AN EXPLOSION - AND OPERATION DISASTER HAS BEGUN!
3

FLEE-M PRIMARY'S PREMATURE THROUGH DEEP SPACE TO DISASTER AS IARUS SHIP IS THWARTED BY TRACRESS'S PALE GARRO AND HIS AID, TECHNICIAN BA, WHO IS ACTUALLY THE THORN-IN-HIS SIDE, MYSTA. KNOWING THAT EMERGENCY EQUIPMENT MUST BE CHECKED A RESCUE PLAN FORMULATED WITH FLAWLESS TIMING AND ALL WASTED MOTION ELIMINATED, AS..
LOCK TECHNICIAN, A LIFE-SHIP! WE MUST GET TO PALADNOR NOW!
YES GARRO, LET'S GET THE LIFE-SHIP ON THE TELEPATHEN AND MAKE OUR ESCAPE!
THERE IT IS - THE SCOURGE OF GALACTIC CRIMINALS!
WHY THAT CONCEITED FOOL! I'VE BEEN BY FAR THE MOST EFFECTIVE OF ALL THE PRISON GUARDS! I CAN'T BELIEVE HE'D THINK THAT I COULD BE FOOLED BY SUCH A FLIMSY TRICK!
SUDDENLY GARRO LOOK WE'RE PASSING THROUGH A FIELD OF METEORITES! WHAT DO YOU THINK CAUSED THIS SHOWER?
I DON'T KNOW PROBABLY THE UPHEAVAL ON PALADNOR BUT DON'T WORRY, THE IMPERVIUM PLATES ON THE SHIP WILL PROTECT US!
AS, ON THE PRISON PLANET.
DO YOU THINK OUR PLAN HAS SUCCEEDED THUS FAR RE THO?
I COULDN'T TELL SINDAR THIS MACHINE YOU'VE BUILT HAS STARTED THE MOST MAN MADE EARTHQUAKE I'VE SEEN!
AND THIS IS ONLY THE BEGINNING! YOU, MY FRIEND ARE GOING TO IMPERSONATE DARA GARRO AND LEAD US TO FREEDOM!
I'M READY, SINDAR I'LL WAIT THAT LONG!
IT'S THE LIFE-SHIP! BUCK UP BOYS, HERE COMES OUR ONE WAY TICKET FROM THIS STINKING HOLE TO EARTH - AND LIBERTY!
THEN END IS OUR NEW START IN LIFE, EH SINDAR?


WHILE ABOVE..
WE'RE HOVERING OVER PALADNOR NOW. YOU'D BETTER TAKE A LOOK AT CONDITIONS BEFORE WE STICK OUR NECKS OUT AND GO DOWN!
I'VE ALREADY TURNED ON THE VIDEO, GARRO! LOOK— THIS IS HORRIBLE!
WHY, IT'S WORSE THAN I IMAGINED - UTTER DESTRUCTION EVERYWHERE! THERE'S NO TIME FOR DELAY, WE'LL USE PLAN Y AT ONCE!
I'LL RUN AND ORDER THE CREWS TO THEIR SPACE SLEDS!
HOW ABOUT THE DISASTER EQUIPMENT, TECHNICIAN. ARE YOU POSITIVE EACH SLED HAS IT?
YES, GARRO, AND YOU AND I WILL RIDE IN THE LAST SLED WITH THE DETECTOR TRUCK!
OON..
THE HATCH IS OPEN, TECHNICIAN. I'M GOING TO DRIVE THE TRUCK OUTSIDE!
WHILE YOU DO, GARRO I'LL START TUNING UP THE DETECTING DEVICES!
ATMOSPHERE PRESSURE, TEN MILOS ABOVE NORM! GRAVITY DROPPING SLIGHTLY! DO YOU THINK I SHOULD STEP OUT AND CHECK SOIL TEXTURE, GARRO?
WE'LL NEED IT FOR OUR REPORT, BUT BE CAREFUL. WE CAN'T HAVE YOU TAKING UNNECESSARY RISKS!
AS-
LOOK, RETHO, THE FOOLS ARE PLAYING RIGHT INTO OUR HANDS. LET'S GET A LITTLE CLOSER TO THAT TRUCK!
IT'S ONLY A TECHNICIAN FROM THE SAFETY COUNCIL
BUT WAIT... IT CAN'T BE... IT... IT'S MYSTA!
5


I'LL NEVER FORGET THAT DESPICABLE MOON WRETCH MYSTA ... IT WAS A LITTLE AFTER THE PROCLAMATION OF UNIVERSAL DISARMAMENT...
"FROM EARTH THE MOON, EVERY PLANET IN CREATION WAS TO BE STRIPPED OF ARMS! ALL BECAUSE THIS CRUSADING MYSTA HAD PERSUADED PEOPLE WITH SWEET NONSENSE OF PEACE IN THE UNIVERSE!"
"BUT AS SENIOR I WAS ASSIGNED TO A DEMOLITION SQUAD WHILE THE SINISTER FORCES DESTROYED THEIR WEAPONS; I STOLE PLANS AT AN ARMORY TO BUILD BIGGER AND BETTER ONE
"I WOULD RULE THE UNIVERSE WITH MY KNOWLEDGE! BUT AS I LEFT, I MET THAT BLASTED STEEL WATCH-DOG, MYSTA'S ROBOT!"
"TRY AS I MIGHT I COULD NOT DESTROY HIM! AND SO I WAS CAPTURED, BROUGHT BEFORE MYSTA HERSELF AND SENTENCED TO ROT FOR TEN YEARS ON PALADNOR!"
BUT I OUTSMARTED THAT WENCH! THE PLANS WHICH BUILT THIS WEAPON WERE GRAFTED UNDER MY SKIN! I SWEATED FOR YEARS TO CONSTRUCT IT, AND NOW MYSTA IS GOING TO BE REPAID!
TECHNICIAN - WHAT DID YOU FIND ON THAT ... OHH! THAT EXPLOSION!
6


OGH! MY EYES... I'M BLINDED! TECHNICIAN 3A - WHERE ARE YOU?
RIGHT HERE, GARRO, I'M COMING TO... WHAT - THIS CREVICE... I'M FALLING!
HURRY, GARRO'S STILL OUT. LET'S GET 'IM AWAY BEFORE HE'S BLOWN TO BITS!
YEAH - SINDAR'S ACTING LIKE A MADMAN! HE'S GOT MYSTA TRAPPED, SO HE'S BLASTING THE TRUCK INTO A GLOBE OF METAL!
SOON...
COME ON, GET THAT GARRO GUY IN THE SAUCER! RETHO, HAVE YOU GOT EVERYTHING STRAIGHT?
DON'T WORRY, SINDAR, AS SOON AS I SWITCH OUTFITS, YOU WON'T BE ABLE TO TELL ME FROM THE REAL DIRK GARRO!
EXCELLENT! NOW GO INTO YOUR ACT - AND MAKE IT SOUND GOOD!
GARRO TO PLOT OF DISASTER SHIP: EMERGENCY CALL - LAND IMMEDIATELY AND STAND BY TO PICK UP TECHNICIAN 3A AND MYSELF!
THEY SWALLOWED THE BAIT, RETHO! FROM NOW ON, IT'S GOING TO BE SMOOTH SAILING!
I'VE GOT TO HAND IT TO YOU, SINDAR. YOU SURE KNOW HOW TO PLAY YOUR CARDS!
MEANWHILE...
THAT BLAST... IT KNOCKED ME RIGHT OFF MY FEET INTO THIS CREVICE! MY HEAD'S BUZZING... CAN'T THINK! WHAT WAS IT?
WAS IT ANOTHER EARTH TREMOR? WAIT. THAT WEAPON... IT'S QUAKE RADAR! NOW I'M BEGINNING TO SEE WHAT CAUSED THE DISTURBANCE ON PALADNOR! I MUST CLIMB UP THERE AND FIND OUT WHO USED IT!
7

AS...
LOOK, SINDAR, THEY'RE STANDING BY AS I ORDERED THEM TO! WHAT NOW?
SIMPLE, RETHO! GO UP AND HAVE THEM OPEN THE HATCH TO LET YOU IN! WHEN THEY DO - THE BOYS AND I WILL TAKE CARE OF EVERYTHING!
WHAT? SOMEBODY'S GETTING READY TO ATTACK THE DISASTER SHIP! I MUST STOP THEM! THIS QUAKE RADAR - IT'S MY ONLY CHANCE!
QUICKLY, GET OVER TO THE SHIP, RETHO! WAIT... THAT RUMBLING NOISE! WHAT IS IT?
SINDAR - THE EARTH... IT'S TREMBLING UNDER MY FEET! WIDE CRACKS ARE OPENING IN THE GROUND!
RUN - RUN! GET AWAY FROM HERE BEFORE WE'RE ALL KILLED!
TOO LATE! WE'RE ALL DOOMED! OOH!
HELLO, SINDAR, GOING SOMEWHERE? I'M SURE THE SAFETY COUNCIL WOULD LIKE TO HAVE A FEW WORDS WITH YOU!
WHAT! MYSTA! IT CAN'T BE! DON'T SHOOT! DON'T SHOOT!
LATER...
I'M GLAD I WAS ABLE TO SQUELCH THAT PRISON BREAK, TECHNICIAN, IT COULD HAVE BEEN SERIOUS! INCIDENTALLY, WHAT ABOUT THE QUAKE RADAR?
IT WAS COMPLETELY DESTROYED, SIR!
LISTEN TO HIM TAKING ALL THE CREDIT! I'M GLAD I'M A WOMAN - AT LEAST WE'RE HONEST AND UNSELFISH!
STILL LATER...
HUMPH! I SUPPOSE 3A THINKS SHE'S A BIG HERO JUST BECAUSE SHE HELPED GARRO SLIGHTLY? WHAT CHEEK!
YOU CAN SAY THAT AGAIN!
PERHAPS I WAS WRONG ABOUT WOMEN! OH WELL, IT DOESN'T MATTER SO LONG AS DIRK GARRO NEVER DISCOVERS HE OWES HIS LIFE TO MYSTA!

MYSTA of the MOON in every issue of PLANET COMICS!

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FULLY GUARANTEED

Formerly $18.50

Now Only **$4.95**

Offer Open Limited Time Only

LOOK! IT'S SANTA! HE'S REALLY HERE IN OUR OWN HOUSE!
AND HERE'S ONE MORE PRESENT FOR YOU, LITTLE GIRL!
GOLLY! JIM - JUST THINK WE'RE SEEING SANTA AT LAST!
OH! HE LOOKS SO JOLLY WITH HIS CHEERFUL FACE & WHITE WHISKERS!

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For Boys and Girls

(Dad will want one, too!)

These Amazing Features make Captain Marvel the Best Watch Buy of the year:

WHAT DO YOU THINK OF MY NEW CAPTAIN MARVEL WATCH?
IT'S THE FINEST WRIST WATCH I'VE EVER SEEN FOR THE MONEY, JOE!
I WISH ALL MY PUPILS WERE AS PUNCTUAL AS YOU ARE, JANE.
IT'S EASY, MA'M! JUST DEPEND ON MY NEW CAPT. MARVEL WRIST WATCH—IT'S SUPER!

Limited Time Only

$5.95 PLUS 10% FED TAX

THE MOST AMAZING HOME TRIAL *ON APPROVAL OFFER* OF THE YEAR

RUSH YOUR ORDER for that wrist watch you've always wanted. Oh, boy! A real, beautiful, practically indestructible Capt Marvel watch, just the one he recommends. Has a picture of Capt. Marvel right on it in beautiful colors. Put this amazing watch to every test! Drop it on the floor. Wear it while you play at tough game of baseball or football. You'll find it keeps accurate time under amazing conditions. Has a big luminous dial that tells time in the dark. Just as big as Dad's wrist watch. Why, you'll be the proudest kid in town when this amazing wrist watch is your very own. And it's yours for only $5.95 on 10-day home approval trial offer. So hurry! Send today . . . now!

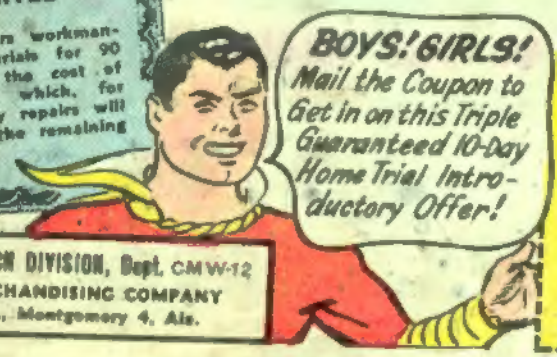
- ★ **UNBREAKABLE BALANCE STAFF** (found only in high-priced watches. A common repair factor in ordinary watches.)
- ★ UNBREAKABLE CRYSTAL
- ★ HIGHLY POLISHED CHROMIUM CASE
- ★ PRECISION-BUILT BY MASTER CRAFTSMEN
- ★ RADIUM DIAL
- ★ NEW MODERN PLASTIC WASHABLE STRAP

SEND NO MONEY. MAIL COUPON NOW.

Send no money to get this practically indestructible Captain Marvel wrist watch with a picture of Captain Marvel himself right on it. Just mail coupon. On arrival pay through postman only $5.95 plus C.O.D. postage and 10% tax. Remember, you risk nothing! Every Captain Marvel watch is guaranteed in writing. Wear 10 days. If you don't agree it's the best buy you have ever seen, return unimpered with and your money will be cheerfully refunded.

ONE YEAR WRITTEN GUARANTEE

Guarantee covers workmanship and materials for 90 days at only the cost of handling after which, for only $1.00 any repairs will be made for the remaining 9 months.



CAPT. MARVEL WATCH DIVISION, Dept. CMW-12
AMERICAN MERCHANDISING COMPANY
9 Madison Ave., Montgomery 4, Ala.

10-DAY NO-RISK TRIAL COUPON

CAPT. MARVEL WATCH DIVISION, Dept. CMW-12
American Merchandising Co.
9 Madison Ave., Montgomery 4, Ala.

Please send me the new, amazing Capt. Marvel Wrist Watch on 10 days' trial. I will pay postman $5.95 plus 10% Fed. tax and C.O.D. postage. If I am not delighted, I can return watch unimpered with, postpaid, in 10 days for refund. (Send $6.55 tax included with order, and we pay postage. Same guarantees.)

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ ZONE _____ STATE _____